Madras Information

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CONTENTS

PAGE

EDUCATION—
1. Education of the Visually Handicapped—By Sri K. Bapayya 3
2. Educational Exhibition 8

AGRICULTURE—
3. Students and the Land Army—By Sri J. M. Lobo Prabhu, I.C.S. 10
4. Britain's Young Farmers—By Clifford Selly 13

PROGRAMMES—
5. Railway Staff College at Baroda 14
6. Sanctions for Social Service—By Sri O. Mohanasundaram 16

DEFENCE—
7. Asoka Chakra Awards 17

FOOD—
8. Food Production Exhibition 18

FISHERIES—
9. Oysters—By Richard Chinnathambi 21
10. Operation 'Drag-net' 22

CONTROL ORDERS—
11. Control Orders in Force on 25th February 1952 23

IRRIGATION—
12. The Malampuzha Project 30

NEWS AND NOTES—
13. Relief Measures in Chittoor and Cuddapah 31

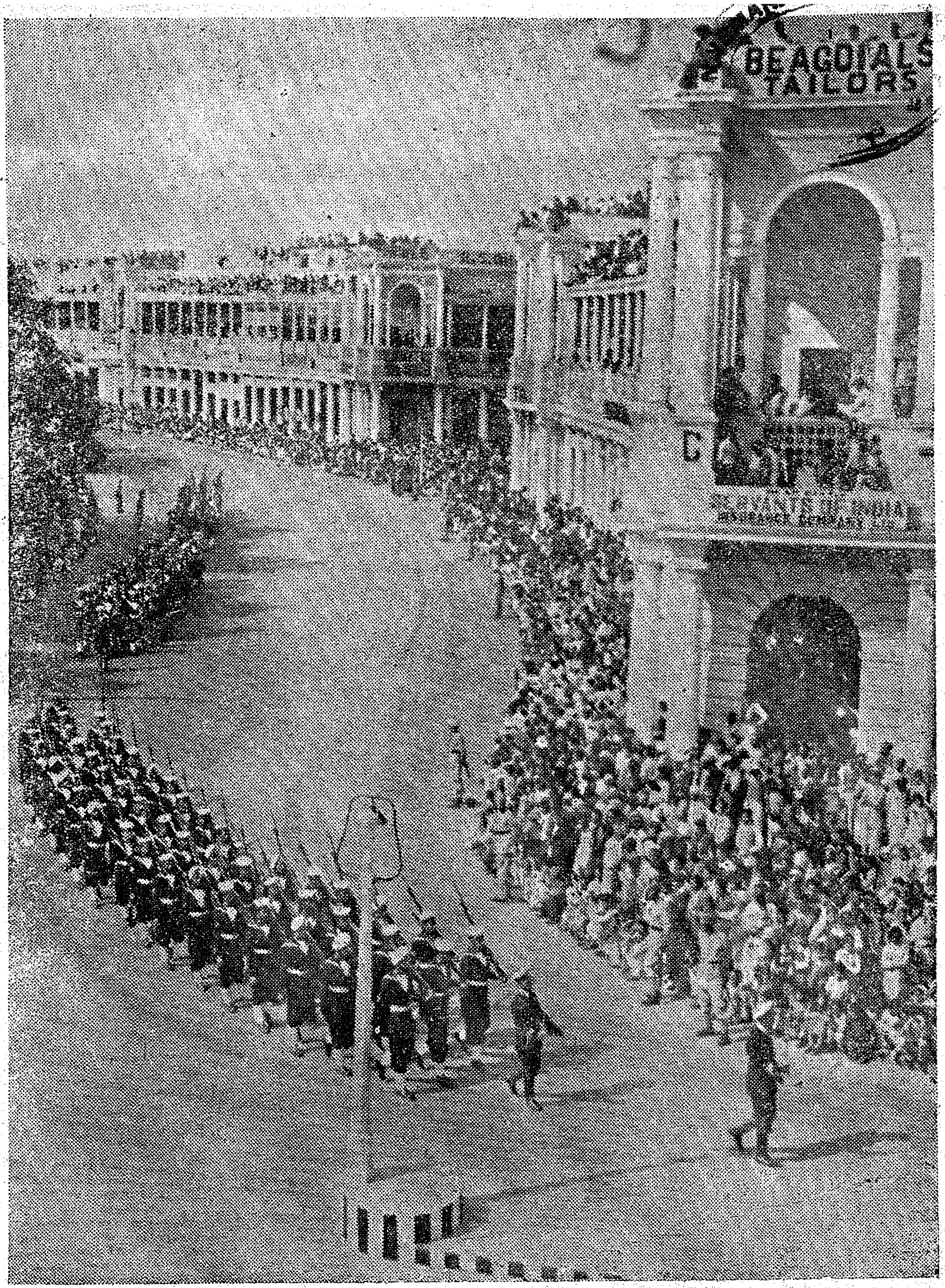
BOOKS—
14. The Madras Record Office—By Sri M. G. Baliga 34

COVER PAGE—

Little Gandhi, the youngest inmate of the Government School for Blind, Poonamallee, learns to use Montessori appliances to develop sense of touch.

SECOND COVER PAGE—

H.E. the Maharaja of Bhavnagar, Governor of Madras, reviews the troops and takes the Salute at the March Past by Army, Naval and Police Units at the Republic Day Parade on January 26, 1952, at the Island Grounds, MadrasCity.



REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS IN DELHI : The Indian Republic Day was celebrated in the Capital with great enthusiasm on January 26, 1952. People in their lakhs witnessed the impressive Republic Day Parade in which men drawn from all the Services participated. The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, took the Salute at the March Past. The pageantry procession which followed immediately after the units of the Armed Forces, represented the culture of different States and Regions in India. There was a March Past of Delhi school students followed by a five item tableau showing the educational and youth activities in the country. Photo shows the Naval Contingent passing through Connaught Circus, New Delhi.

One reason why our education, industry, cultural life is so weak and frustrated is because it is separated from the great sagas of life of the masses. The townsman does not know the real deficiencies and desires of the villages for which reason he cannot produce or sell what is required. He works in ignorance of the potentials of his trade and occupation. The deficiency is not even made good by writings and studies, as village life has been very little explored. In the second place, work in the fields will teach the town-bred respect for manual labour, the absence of which has made us so far only a nation of clerks and supervisors, not of workers and creators. Thirdly, living and working with the masses should create the sense of democracy without which our political life will never be real.

Our students now tend to live in ivory towers thinking that the accident of birth entitles them to live apart from others. Before the march of democracy disabuses them, they should learn by work among the masses that leadership arises from knowledge and its uses. And lastly, even granting that the work in villages is in the nature of an imposition, is it worse than military training compulsory on the youth of most countries ? Our enemies are ignorance and poverty, against which every citizen has to be trained as a soldier.

Role of the Student

The second objection is that whatever good the work may do to the student it will be without effect on the village and villager. This presumes that the student will have little to teach, which is incorrect as it is proposed that agriculture should be an integral part of education right from the primary stages. University students could also begin their rural course by a short spell in State agricultural farms where the latest methods are practised. Secondly, the University student will bring to his work a mind better trained and more alert than that of the cultivator which will enable him to see and remove defects. The accumulated experience of each student and of the whole body of students will become another source for improvement. In due course the scientific method will be introduced in place of ignorance and custom. In the third place, the students will actually work, contributing to the labour and production. The cultivators will in due course appreciate this contribution.

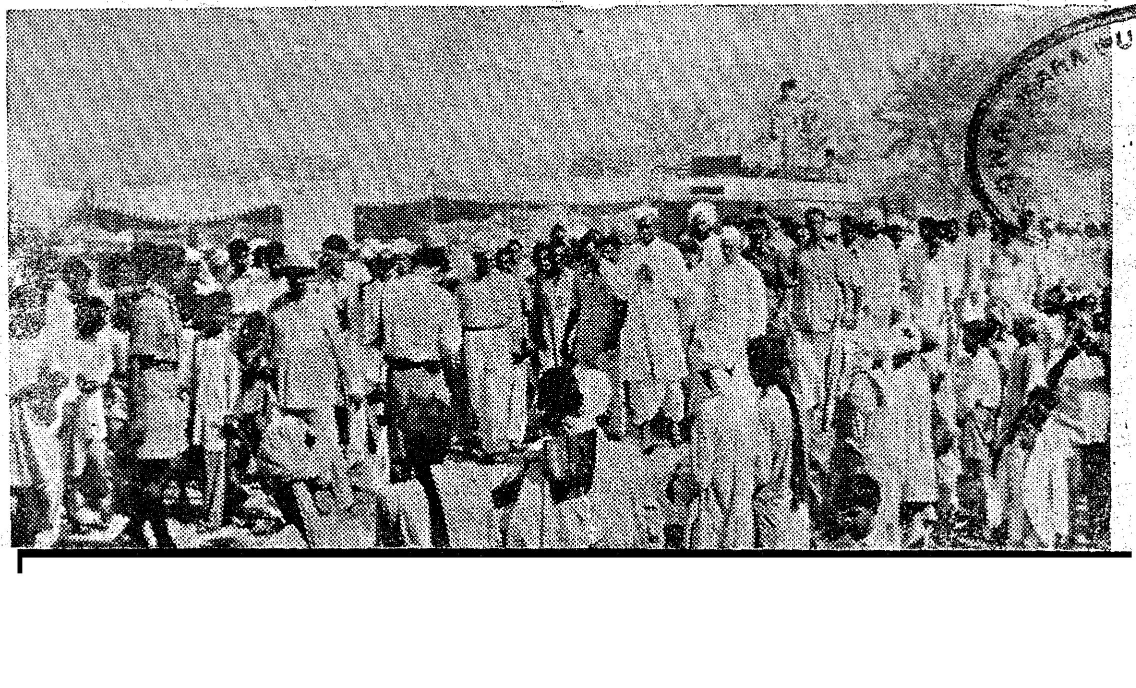
Lastly, the example of the students on the younger ideas and modes : With increasing familiarity, the youth in the village will become disposed to dress, talk, act and live like the students among them. Girl students will have their influence on the women. As wave after wave of students passes through the village a silent revolution will destroy the difference between town and country, the present and the past. To the extent students undertake social and educational work, not only will they find themselves more readily accepted but their influence will penetrate deeper.

How can students be organised to really work ? The plan envisages that students, singly or in a body, may choose a village for their work, which enables them to find first accommodation, second field for work. If they are not so fortunate they will live in the village chandi or school-house and work either on Government land if available, or with any cultivator who requires their free labour. It can be assumed that cultivators will be disposed to accept free labour, particularly when they realise that if the students are not engaged, they would suffer in the academic courses. As and when students demonstrate their ability, their successors will walk into prepared positions.

But will the students work ? Without doubt, they will do so, if what they do is evaluated for their examinations

INAUGURATION OF THE LAND ARMY : The President Dr. Rajendra Prasad opened the first recruitment centre for India's Land Army "Bhoomi Sena" at village Shahibabad, fifteen miles from Delhi, in June last. The "Bhoomi Sena" is an auxiliary army of volunteers whose aim is the utilisation of land on a rational basis and the organisation of agricultural extension activities.

Inaugurating the first operation taken up by the "Bhoomi Sena", the President himself, spade in hand, turned up clods of silt in the Nangloi Drain which had silted up. Photo shows the President with the Union Food and Agriculture Minister passing between the line of volunteers who joined the "Bhoomi Sena". The recruits included University students, school teachers and young farmers.



Every student will keep a diary which could be occasionally checked, and the authenticity of which would even otherwise be apparent to the examiners. For exceptional work, particularly for new ideas and methods, special credits could be awarded to students. It should not be difficult to engage student competitions, once it is established that success in all examinations depends on what they do practically in the fields.

Service to the Country

Lest my proposal may appear irksome to students, I would like to point out just two advantages. The first is the service they will be rendering to the country. At present, the country is in the grip of famine and poverty of body and mind. We are spending Rs. 140 crores importing food and another 40 crores subsidising sales. Our foreign exchange required for import of machinery is for the largest part absorbed in food which we could easily grow. Even a ten per cent increase in yield will wipe out the food deficit and any further increase will add to the purchasing power of the masses which would stimulate our economy and end the present adverse climate in industry and trade. The country has secured Independence without a blow. Is it too much to ask students to contribute their share to consolidate the Independence won, by conquest of poverty and ignorance ?

Secondly, the town bred have no conception of the wonder that is the countryside. The largest part of poetry is of the beauties of Nature. The human spirit longs for open spaces where Nature is not tainted and the mind is free.

Wordsworth wrote :

I have learned to look on nature, Hearing
Sometimes the still sad music of humanity
And I have felt a presence that disturbs me
With the joy of elevated thoughts, a sense sublime
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns
And the round ocean, and the living air and the blue sky.

Yeats wanted to ' arise and go to Innisfree '

For always night and day I hear lake water
Lapping with low sounds by the shore
When I stand on the roadway or
On the pavements grey
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

Yes, you will find the countryside of a beauty which will become part of you and which will abide with you even when you return to town. And when you have done your part, worked for your people and country, and are in the evening of life, you will be able to say

Nature I loved and next to nature, art.
I warmed my hands before the fire of life.
It sinks and I am ready to depart.

(*By courtesy, All-India Radio, Madras.*)

Remission of Land Revenue in Chittoor and Cuddapah Districts

The Government have sanctioned the grant of wet and dry remissions for Fasli 1361 on the scales indicated below for the entire districts of Cuddapah and Chittoor, which have been affected by adverse seasonal conditions. Current wastes on dry lands in both the districts, that is, lands which are not mamool wastes, will also be eligible for remission.

Cuddapah District : *Wet Lands* : (*a*) Full remission on wet lands with an outturn of four annas and below ; (*b*) No remission for wet lands with outturn of above four annas ; (*c*) All wet fields on which, owing to inadequacy of water, a successful dry crop has been raised, will be eligible for the remission of the difference between wet and dry assessment ; (*d*) Lands, left waste, owing to lack of supply in the irrigation sources, are eligible for full remission, except mamool wastes, in reckoning which, however, three previous faslis would be excluded.

Dry Lands : (*a*) *Food Crops* (*Cereals and Pulses*) : (i) Full remission for food crops with an outturn of four annas and below ; (ii) Half remission for food crops with an outturn of above four annas and below eight annas ; (*b*) *Other Crops* (*Crops other than Cereals and Pulses*) : (i) Full remission for crops with an outturn below four annas ; (ii) no remission for crops with an outturn of four annas and above.

The Government have directed that the whole of the Cuddapah District be recognised as an area, where distress exists, for purposes of granting subsistence loans to agriculturists under Section 4 of the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. They have sanctioned an allotment of Rs. 3 lakhs for the grant of subsistence loans to the ryots in the Cuddapah District. An additional allotment of Rs. 3 lakhs for the year 1951–52 under ' Loans ' for the purpose of deepening of field-wells has also been sanctioned.

Chittoor District : Wet Lands : (*a*) Full remission on wet lands with an outturn of four annas and below ; (*b*) half remission on wet lands with an outturn of above four annas and below eight annas.

Dry Lands : (*a*) *Food Crops* (*Cereals and Pulses*) : (i) Full remission for lands grown with crops with an outturn of four annas and below ; (ii) half remission for lands grown with crops with an outturn of above four annas and below eight annas ; (*b*) *Non-Food Crops* : (i) Full remission for lands grown with crops with an outturn of below four annas ; (2) half remission for lands grown with crops with an outturn of four annas and below eight annas.

The Government have directed that all concessions in the matter of remission of land revenue should be applied in both the districts to the estates taken over by the Government.

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Britain's Young Farmers

By CLIFFORD SELLY, Agricultural Correspondent of the *Daily Herald*, London

On Sussex Downs, near Lewes, is a farm where cows are milked by hand in one stall and by auto-recording machinery in the next. This mixture of the old and new in farming practice is an everyday feature at the Plumpton Agricultural Institute which offers young men and women opportunity to learn more about their farm jobs.

Plumpton is one of 32 county agricultural institutes in England and Wales which provided technical training for people with some practical experience on the land. The work of each Institute is adapted to prevailing local conditions and at Plumpton there are courses, each lasting a year, in general agriculture, horticulture and poultry husbandry.

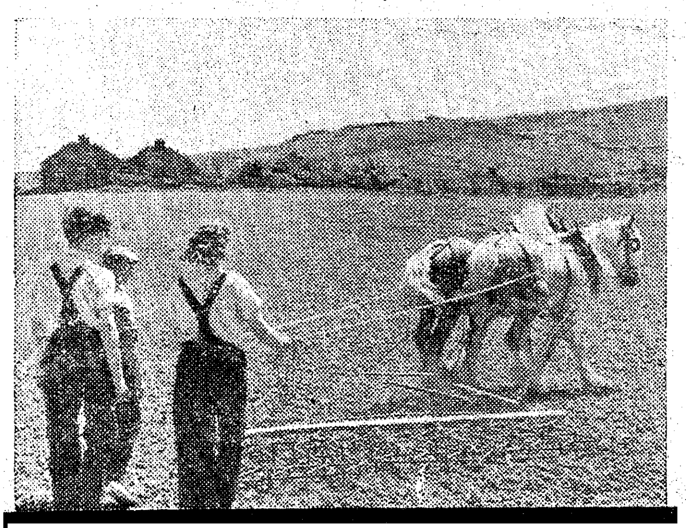
More than 270 young people from the county's farms wanted to take a course in 1951; but there was room at the school for only 80. This is a change from 1926 when the school was opened and the Principal, Mr. Jesse, had difficulty in finding 18 pupils. Since then interest has grown steadily and the buildings have been extended to accommodate more students.

Laboratory and Farm

During their year's course the pupils divide their time equally between laboratory and lecture sessions, between the creeper-covered school and its farm of 800 acres. After attending a lecture on tractor ignition systems, some spend the afternoon digging potatoes. Others, after looking after pigs all morning, will attend a lecture in the afternoon. Another group spends the morning analysing stock rations before going out to do some hedging. Lecturers also teach the theory of costing and marketing. A balance is thus maintained between practical and theoretical work.

The school's day is long, often beginning at 5-30 a.m. in the milking shed and going on until 7-45 p.m. with lectures and private study. Even so, the billiards and table-tennis rooms are popular, and Tuesday evenings and week-ends are usually free. But members of the staff seldom get a chance to relax—they spend their evenings talking to young farmer's clubs and spreading the influence of the school round the Sussex downlands.

HARROWING A FIELD: Students of Plumpton Agricultural Institute, Sussex, England, out on the South Downs. They are taking turns with the harrow on what will be a field of kale.



LESSON IN POULTRY KEEPING: Scene at Plumpton Agricultural Institute, Sussex, England. Mr. D. Dickinson, the Instructor in poultry-keeping, is explaining the points of a hen to Roger Squire, one of the 80 students.

Soils on the school farm range from free-working sand and chalk at one end to heavy black clay at the other. This wide variation enables the school to grow all the typical crops of the district and is invaluable for teaching purposes.

Raising the Standard

There is a lot of local interest in the pedigree Shire horses bred at the school and in its fine flock of Kerry Hill sheep. The pupils go regularly to agricultural shows, and visits are arranged to markets, packing stations and exhibitions to stimulate their interest in technical advances.

Among the students are sometimes seen retired officers and men in middle life, but the majority are youngsters. The average age at Plumpton is 18. The young men and women bring application of keeness to their studies. There is a competition for vacancies and many of the students hold scholarships. All are eager to cram the maximum amount of experience into their year's course.

When the course ends many of the school's 80 students will go back to their farms in Sussex or go on to new jobs in other parts of the country. A few will enter college or university. They will be taking what they have learned at Plumpton out into the fields and so raise the standard of farming practice.

(*British Information Services.*)

Sanctions for Social Service

By SRI O. MOHANASUNDARAM, Labour Welfare Officer, Government Transport, Madras

Social service is no more sentimental charity, indulged in as a pleasurable pastime by the leisured social-butterflies or rendered in a patronising or paternal style by the benevolent class. It should be recognised as a highly specialised service, having matured into a professional status. It should go to the root of the problems. It should endeavour to meet out social justice through scientific means. The social worker is a doctor entrusted with the social health of the society.

The personality of the social worker is a great factor in deciding the quality of service. He alone can put the soul and spirit into the framework of any social organisation. Institutions and individuals that employ personnel for social services, have a great responsibility in choosing, training, building and maintaining their personality, as well as giving freedom for thought, advice and action. If a social worker is to serve *selflessly* for the common cause, it is a primary responsibility of his employer to care for him adequately. He should be kept beyond normal wants, needs and necessities of life. He should not be like a hunted being, insecure about his job, promotion, prospects, future, or be submitted to acts of injustices or petty irritations; or, be prevented from discharging his duties in an unbiassed way which sometimes may run counter to the wishes of his employer. Without this fundamental freedom from want, of thought, word and deed, social service will be a mere make-believe. It will fail to create the necessary confidence in its clientele.

Characteristic Qualities

Social work should be characterised by sympathy, sincerity, simplicity, sterling character, sacrifice and service. Without genuine sympathy for the cause and the people concerned, it is impossible to render any effective service. People who cannot get over their petty prejudices of caste, colour, creed, religion, race or nationality have no business to pollute the noble mission of disinterested service. They should look on their work not as a job but as a calling. They should believe in the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God and serve and enrich humanity without any other ulterior motive. They should be socialised personalities with scientific outlook and sympathetic understanding of human nature. Without sincerity, one reduces himself to the status of an hypocrite. Sincerity alone can develop in us a faith in the cause and a will to fight for it against all obstacles, doubts and temptations.

Social workers should learn to live in simplicity. It does not mean that to be a slum-worker, we should become a slum-dweller. It does mean that we should not be aristrocratic in our ways, habits and outlook. Our life should be well ordered, disciplined and purposeful. A social worker should be a well-integrated personality. He should possess sterling character beyond all reproach which alone can generate confidence. In the words of E. A. Chaddock, " He that would lift me physically must be below me but he that would lift me morally must be above me ". It is needless to say that workers in public who do not possess character, will become a public menace.

Spirit of Service and Sacrifice

Social workers should be prepared for sacrifices. But sacrifices need not always mean self-effacement. Social workers will have to exist, may be with homes and families; they will have to be happy and then alone is it possible to serve abundantly. But if one is ambitious to become a prince of men and amass wealth, he should seek some other career. Social workers will have to realise that as doctors of social health, they will be called on at any time, even at considerable personal sacrifice and inconveniences. " Our time is not our own, it belongs to those who need us " should be the urge to serve humanity ungrudgingly and enhance the human personality.

In an ideal society, there is no need for any social service, because all functions of the State will be harnessed for the service of the citizens. The spirit of service will become the very life-breath of its administration. But we will have to take the society as it is today, with all its handicaps and shortcomings. No doubt, " man is trying to eat man, individually, socially and internationally " as Dr. Lin Yutang has so beautifully put it. We are living in an age of masked cannibalism, wearing the cloak of hypocrisy and masquerading under the pseudonym of civilization. Social service movements are born as a challenge to the dehumanising influences that are reducing humanity to the level of beasts and brutes.

Boarding Grants for Basic School Hostels

The Government have laid down the policy to be followed in sanctioning boarding grants to pupils of Scheduled Castes and other eligible communities, studying in Basic schools.

In future, only pupils staying in hostels serving Model Schools, attached to Basic Training Schools, will be eligible for the boarding grant. For pupils, between six and eleven years, a grant of Rs. 10 per mensem will be granted. For pupils between twelve and sixteen years a grant of Rs. 15 per mensem will be granted. Pupils below the age of six years will not be eligible for the boarding grants.

The hostels attached to Basic schools recognised for boarding grants during 1949-50 and 1950-51 will however continue to enjoy such recognition.

1952

Asoka Chakra Awards

Flight-Lieut. U. A. D'Cruz.

For " fortitude and devotion to duty while a prisoner-of-war ", Flt.-Lieut. U. A. D'Cruz of the Indian Air Force, has been awarded the Asoka Chakra Class II. He is one of the four I.A.F. recipients of this newly instituted award.

Ulrich Antony D'Cruz, who hails from Madavaram, Madras, joined the Indian Air Force as an airman in 1943. He volunteered to be trained as pilot and was commissioned in the General Duties (Pilot) Branch of the Service in January 1946.

During Jammu and Kashmir air operations, D'Cruz saw action as a fighter pilot. While carrying out a reconnaissance sortie over the Akhnur-Bhimber area on December 1, 1947, he was shot down and captured by Pathan tribesmen. He remained a prisoner-of-war with the tribesmen until December 1948, when he was returned to India under a scheme for the exchange of prisoners-of-war.

The citation awarding him the Asoka Chakra Class II says, " while a prisoner-of-war Flt.-Lieut. D'Cruz was often beaten and threatened with death by his captors but neither ill-treatment nor the offer of monetary reward could undermine his loyalty to his country, or his Service. The fortitude and devotion to duty displayed by him while a prisoner-of-war is in accordance with the highest traditions of his Service, and serves as an example to his fellow officers and men."

Warrant-Officer O. Sundaresayya (34) of the Indian Air Force has been awarded the Asoka Chakra Class II for averting a railway disaster in May 1950.

" But for his timely action there might have been many casualties among passengers and heavy damage to the railway property," says the citation awarding the Asoka Chakra.

This act of gallantry was performed by Sundaresayya, formerly Flight Sergeant, when travelling by the Jhansi-Lucknow passenger train. Between Chiragaon and Moth stations he noticed that one of the compartments was on fire. Finding that the emergency communication cord failed to work, he travelled on the footboards of carriages at great personal risk, and got as near to the engine as possible, thus attracting the attention of the engine crew and succeeding in bringing the train to a stop, and averting a disaster.

Warrant-Officer Sundaresayya, whose home is in Madras, joined the I.A.F. in De ember 1939 after qualifying as an electrical engineer from the Madras Polytechnic. After serving with Nos. 1, 3 and 8 I.A.F. Squadrons as ground technician, he went on release in July 1946, but rejoined the Service two years later.

Warrant Officer Sundaresayya.

Food Production Exhibition

The Food Production Exhibition at the Park Fair Exhibition, Madras, was organised by the Commissioner of Food Production assi ted b a Committee consisting of the Heads of Departments and a few non-officials. Nearly all Departments that have a bearing on Food Production and Food Consumption were included, viz., Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Industries, Co-operation, Electricity, Public Works Department, Public Health, Civil Supplies, State Women's Food Council, etc. This co-ordinated Exhibition was arranged in one composite block to make it more effective and interesting. A total of 67 stalls were taken for locating the different Departments and the stalls allotted to the various Departments according to the nature and magnitude of the exhibits.

At the entrance of the Food Production enclosure an attractive frontage with a cut-out model of a tractor in the centre, a farmer sowing seeds on one side and a woman carrying the sheaves of a bumper crop on the other was put up.

Agriculture.—The Exhibition started with the Agricultural Department. The Agricultural Section displayed different aspects of paddy cultivation with a special reference to the various strains evolved by the Agricultural Department and found suitable to different tracts of the State. Special prominence was given to Sri Vellayya Gounder who achieved the phenomenal yield of 12,000 lb. of paddy per acre in Salem District. Similarly exhibits of millets, pulses, cotton, oil-seeds, sugarcane, vegetables, etc., were arranged in an attractive manner and Assistants from the different scientific sections were on duty to explain to the visitors the advantages of the different strains exhibited. Varieties of fruits grown on the plains and on the hills of the State were also exhibited.

Every evening an Assistant from the Fruit Section demonstrated to the visitors the preparation of jams, jellies, squashes, etc. This attracted a good crowd every evening and the visitors had a chance to taste the preparations of the evening and also obtain their recipes. Selected seeds of important vegetables and greens were sold at reasonable rates to the public. An attractive book called *Guide to Vegetable Cultivation* was a speciality and enjoyed a good sale.

In the centre of the Food Production enclosure, demonstration plots with agricultural crops and fruit trees were attractively laid out, showing the methods for cultivating fruit trees, vegetables, cereals, green manure crops, etc. There was also a model of an ideal home with lawns, gardens, etc., surrounding the building. A model of a compost pit was laid out in a corner of the demonstration plots.

Agricultural Engineering.—This branch of the Agricultural Department put up exhibits in nine stalls. Implements worked with bullock power and machines were exhibited. The Rotavator which is meant for puddling wet lands attracted a good crowd. An oil-engine pumpset mounted on a trolley was kept working daily and this interested a good many villagers.

A model of contour-bunding, contour trenching, gully plugging, etc., with terrace method of cultivation was put up, showing the different agricultural practices that should be adopted for conserving moisture in dry lands and for preventing soil erosion.

PARK FAIR EXHIBITION: Front view of the Food Production Section organised by the Government of Madras at the Park Fair Exhibition held recently in the South Indian Athletic Association grounds.

Non-Cereal Cafeteria.—The Madras State Women's Food Council conducted a non-cereal cafeteria at the Exhibition. Dishes prepared out of non-rice cereals and vegetables were served to the public at moderate prices to induce people to take increasingly to non-cereal preparations. Leaflets in English and Tamil giving recipes for the different non-cereal dishes were distributed to the public.

Civil Supplies.—A model of the Government Milk Factory, Teynampet, where reconstituted milk is prepared, was exhibited. This factory was constructed in 1947 at a cost of about four lakhs of rupees to meet the acute shortage of milk in the City. Milk-shakes and buttermilk manufactured from milk-powder with the addition of vitamins and other ingredients and pasteurised was sold by Messrs. Vernon & Co., who are the sole distributors of this reconstituted milk, in a tastefully decorated stall. All those who have taken this milk opine that it tastes like fresh cow's milk.

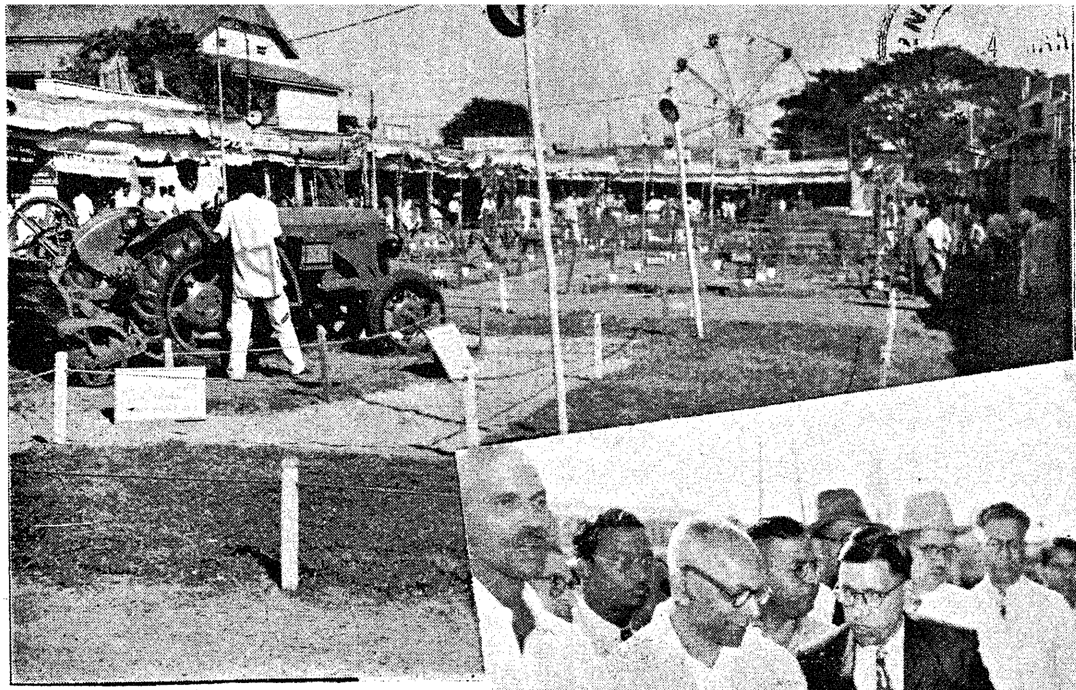
The City Rationing Officer put up an attractive stall with charts showing the production, requirements and consumption of foodgrains in the State, the necessity for rationing, rules on rationing, austerity measures introduced by Government, etc. Visitors were told how bona fide visitors could get one week's rations into the City and how they could secure ration-cards. Samples of popular food-grains with their prices were also displayed. Magic lantern slides on rationing regulations and austerity measures were shown every night on an improvised screen on the top of the stall.

Nutrition.—In the Nutrition Section, posters on the nutritive values of the different foodgrains, vegetables, fruits, etc., were exhibited. Articles constituting a balanced diet of South India (vegetarian and non-vegetarian) were put up with their calorific values. An illuminated map of Madras State showing the working of the

4 JAN 1952

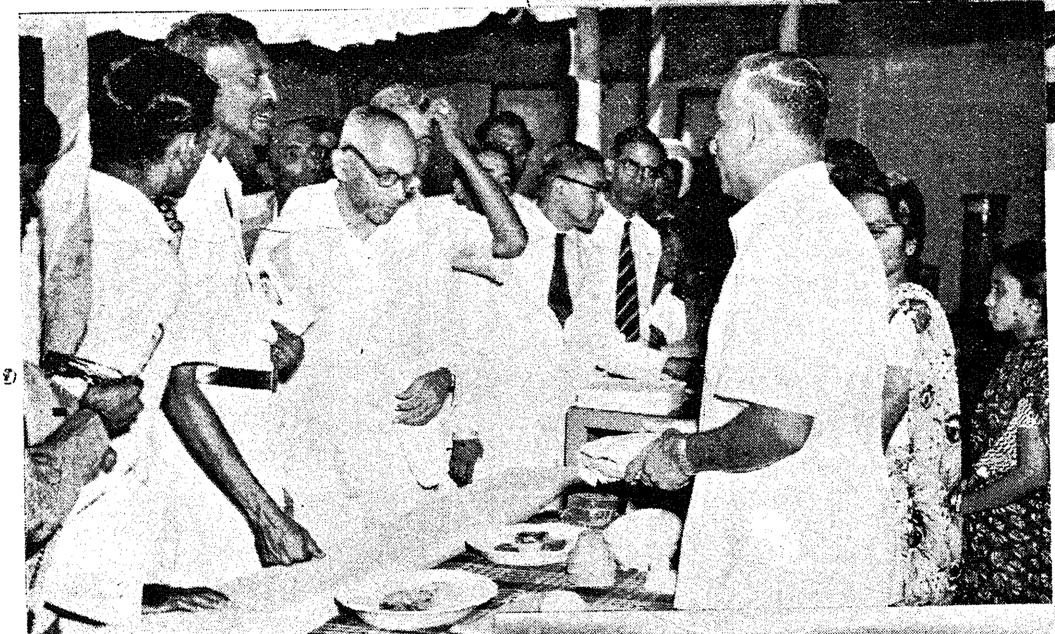
FOOD PRODUCTIO EXHIBITION

At the annual Park Fair Exh tion held on the S.I.A.A. Grou the Government of Madras o nised a Food Production sec designed to present a comprehen view of activities on the Food Fr

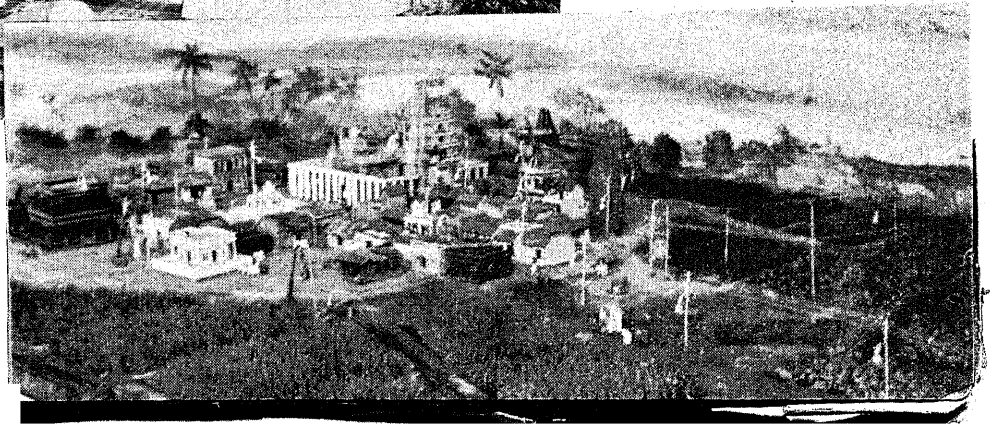


Above : General view showing stalls and plots. Note the tractor in the foreground.

Above : A demonstrator exp the making and bottling of fruit j and squashes to Sri A. B. Shet



Left : The value of fish supplementary food was extoll the Fisheries stall.



Right : A model vilage howing the benefits of electrification. Note the electric motor pump-sets.

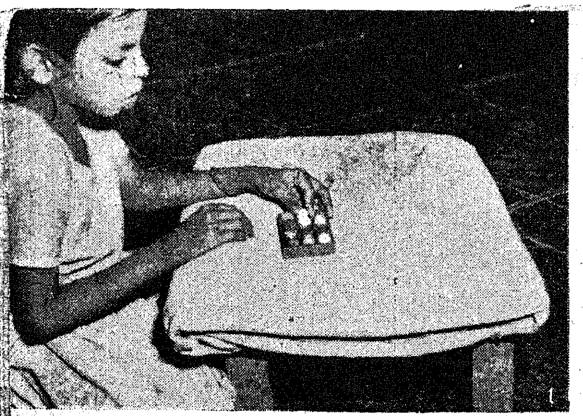
EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

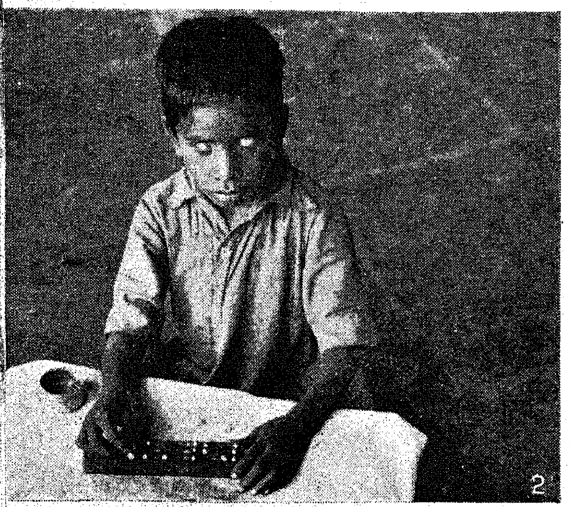
With the advent of Independence, the interests of the unfortunate blind have justly received the immediate attention of the Madras Government. In July 1950, the Victory Memorial Blind School, Poonamallee, came under the complete control and management of the Government, from which time the institution has come to be known as the Government School for Blind, Poonamallee.

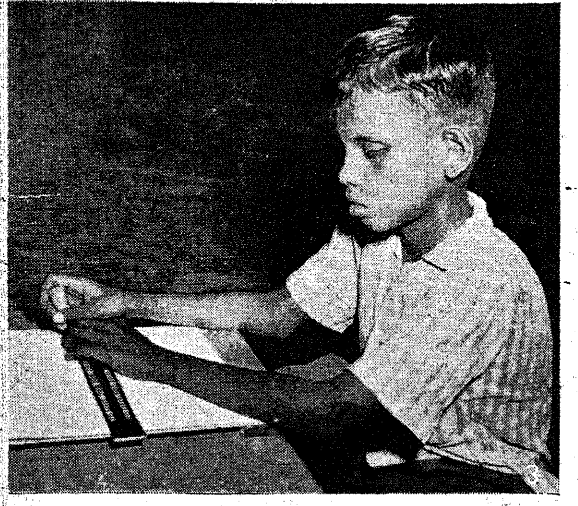
This is a residential institution where most of the pupils come from very poor families. All of them are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, medical aid and educational facilities. Admission is extended to all blind persons irrespective of race, colour, creed or sex. The aim is to provide adequate training facilities for the blind students to become self-supporting, self-reliant and self-respecting citzens of the State.

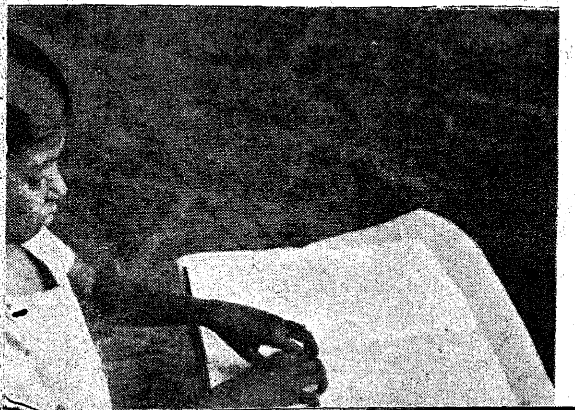
The pictures :

1. Murugammal learns to recognise Braille letters with the Letter Plate.
2. Chitravelu forms short words in Braille with the Braillet Board.
3. Kamalamurthy uses a Braille Writing Frame.
4. Vedamani reads a book in Braille.
5. The imposing building of the Government School for Blind, Poonamallee.
6. Close-up of "seeing fingers" reading a page in Braille.
7. Lalitha works out a sum on the Taylor Frame.
8. A class in progress.
9. Sridharan types out a passage on one of the latest model Braille Typewriters.
10. The School Orchestra. Music is a popular pastime.









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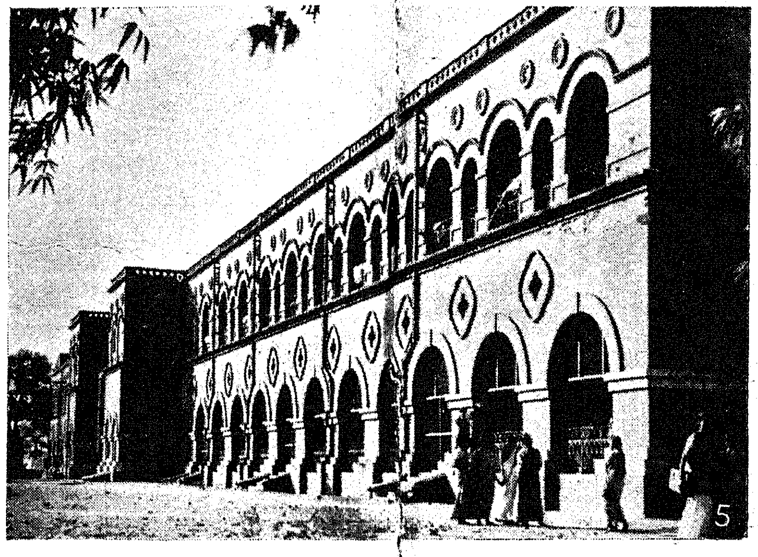

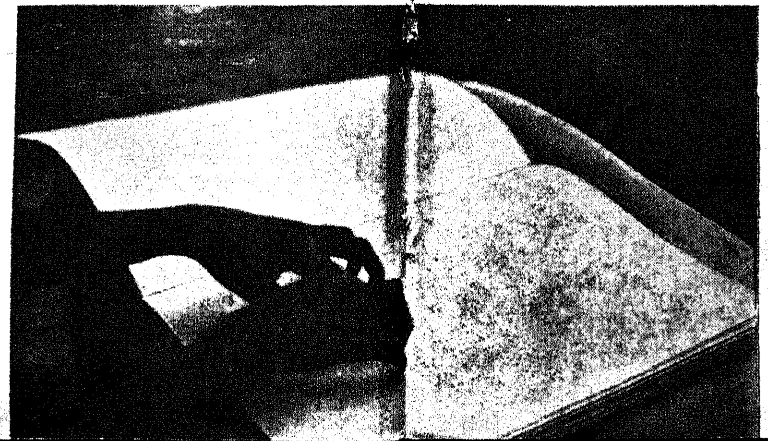

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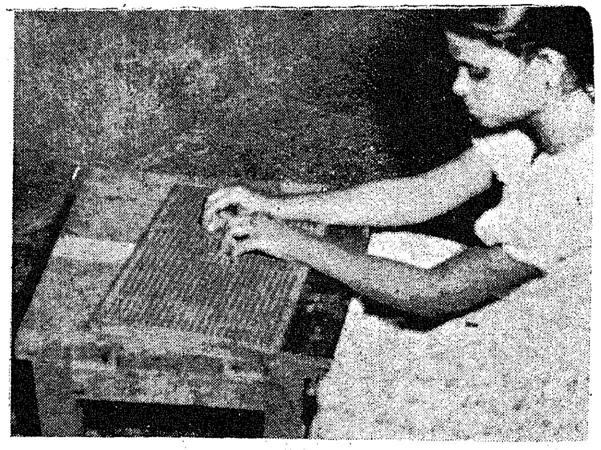

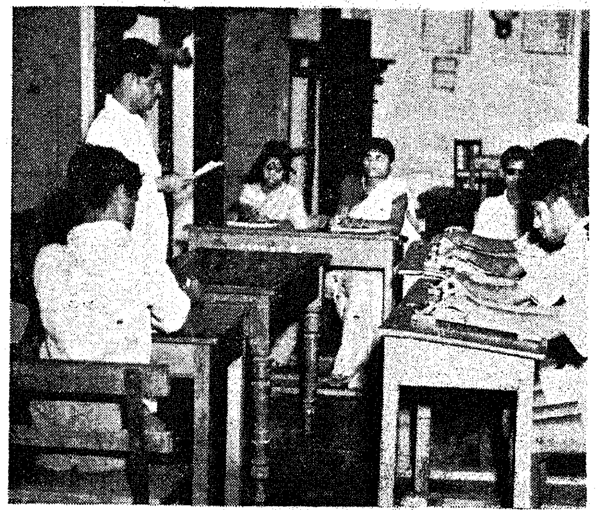

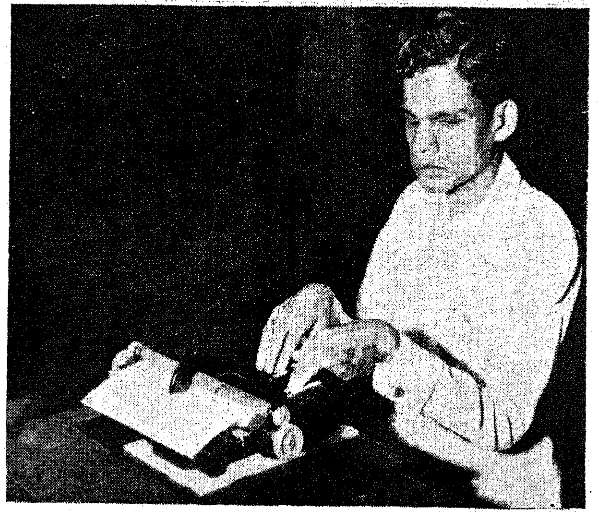

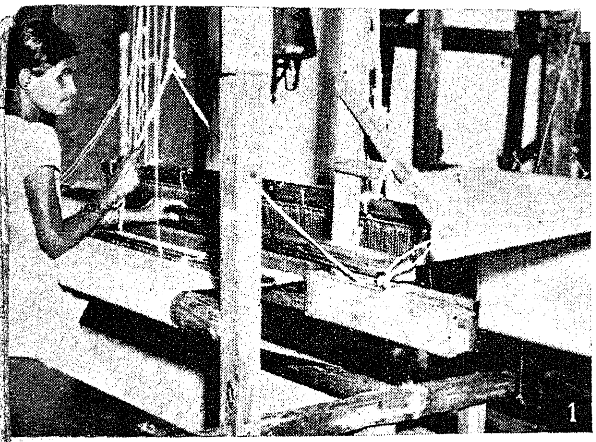

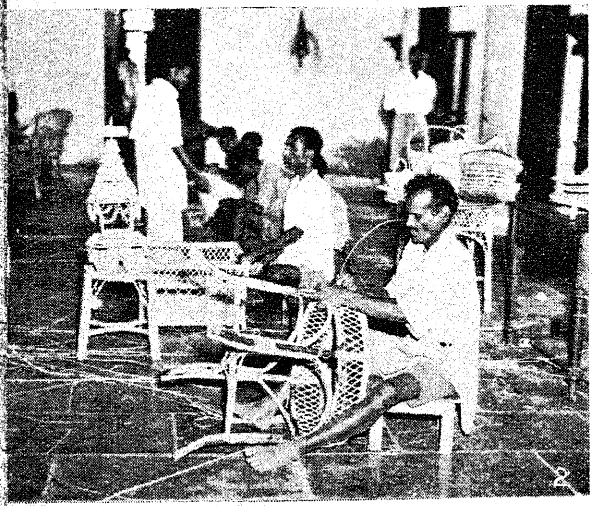

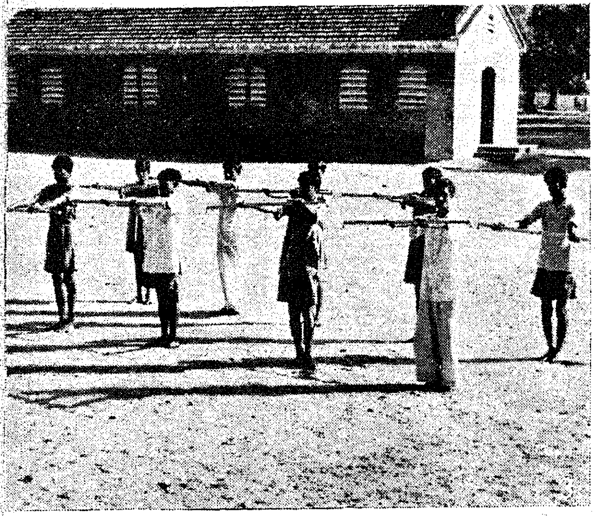

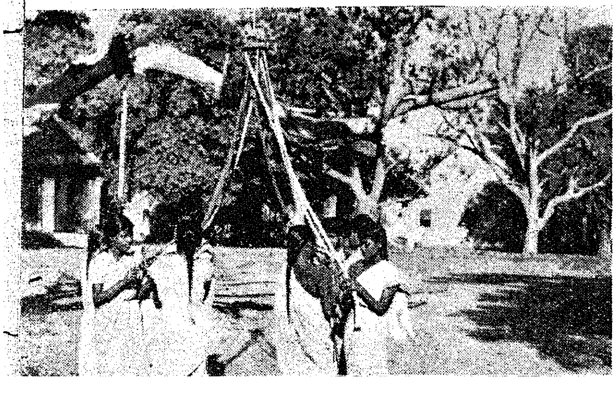

THE BLIND LEARN A TRADE

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When a basic standard in general education is achieved, training in some useful vocation follows. Such vocational training is designed to improve the earning capacity of the blind individual, and insures against his being forced to lapse into being a dependent on public charity.

At Poonamallee, men learn rattan work and women are trained in weaving.

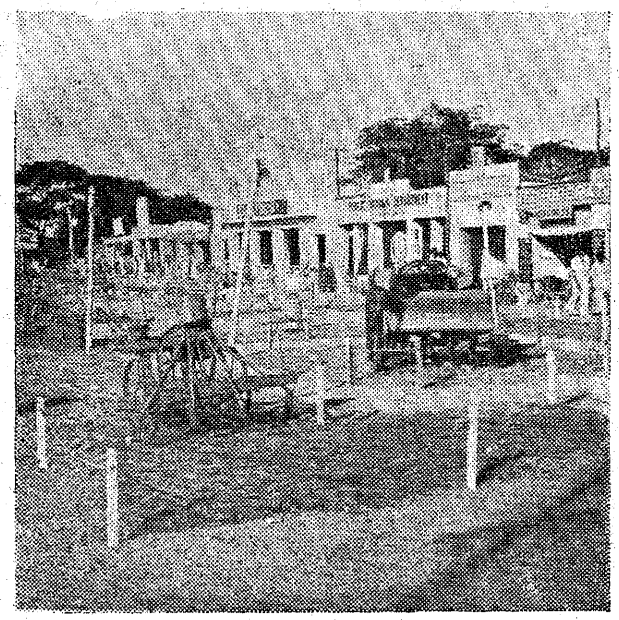
The pictures :

1. Weaving Section at work. This blind woman is weaving a bedsheet of intricate design. The cloth requirements of the institution are met from the stocks produced at the Weaving Section, only the surplus being put up for sale.

2. At the Rattan Section. All types of furniture and wicker works are produced here. Some of the articles made by the inmates were exhibited at the Festival of Britain.

3. Physical education has a special significance for the blind. It is aimed at not only promoting healthy habits, team spirit and sportsmanship, but also at eradicating certain mannerisms essentially peculiar to the blind. The boys here are doing Wand Drill.

4. The girls at *Pinnal Kolattam*, a kind of Indian Maypole dance. Music has a powerful appeal to the blind and so extra facilities are provided for imparting training in music.



MODERN EQUIPMENT : *Agricultural implements displayed included Rotavator and seed-drill.*

Unicef Milk Distribution Schemes and the quantity of milk powder distributed to malnourished children and mothers in the different districts was put up. Free skimmed milk donated by the *Unicef* was distributed to a few children every evening in the stall. Heights and weights of children and women were recorded in the stall for statistical studies.

Electricity.—The Electricity stall was one of the most popular ones in the Food Production enclosure. The model of an electrified village proved very popular and huge crowds queued up to see this model which showed how electricity could be utilised for the prosperity of the rural areas. Charts showing the utilisation of electric power, increasing demand for power and revenue, progress of electric supply for agricultural purposes and the Madras Grid were also popular exhibits in the stall.

Public Works Department (Irrigation).—The stall of the Public Works Department (Irrigation) was tastefully decorated on the outside and provided with dark blue screens to obtain a partial darkness inside so that the electrically lit models could be seen to advantage. Models of the Lower Bhavani Project, Krishna-Pennar Project, Cauvery Valley and Irrigation Projects of Madras State were exhibited attractively. They showed at a glance the details of the projects in a pleasing way and large crowds queued up in the stalls every evening.

Superintending Engineer (Food Production).—A model of an ideal village showing how Minor Irrigation Works could help towards the prosperity of a village was attractively laid out. A map indicating the Tank Improvement Schemes of the State was also exhibited.

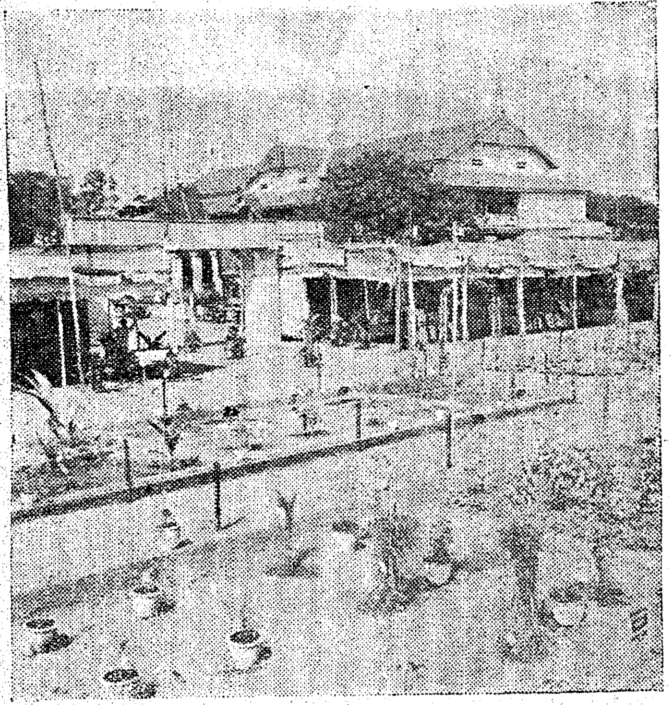
Co-operative Department.—Several exhibits were put up in the stalls on the utility of the palm trees, particularly palm jaggery as an article of food. In one of the stalls *neera* (sweet juice drawn from date trees) was sold to the public as a beverage. This juice was kept in iced drums to keep it in good condition and was sold at 6 pies per cup. In another stall, the conversion of sweet juice into jaggery, white sugar, chocolates, toffees, etc. was demonstrated. A hand-driven centrifugal machine for converting rab into white sugar was put on demonstration. Articles made from palm leaves by the tappers as a subsidiary occupation were exhibited.

Fisheries.—A miniature aquarium with fresh water fish used for food, for pleasure and for disease-control was put up, with suitable natural background and lit during nights to make it not only attractive but educative. Preserved specimens of cultivable fish were also exhibited in huge glass jars. Cured fish and processed prawns were sold at reasonable prices. Certain preparations made of fresh fish were also put on sale daily and there was a very good demand for these. A portion of this stall was taken up for exhibiting a variety of 'Algae' which grows on the seashores of Ramanathapuram District and which is claimed to be a good subsidiary food. Delicious preparations can be made out of this weed, and they had a good sale. Agar-agar is prepared from this seaweed.

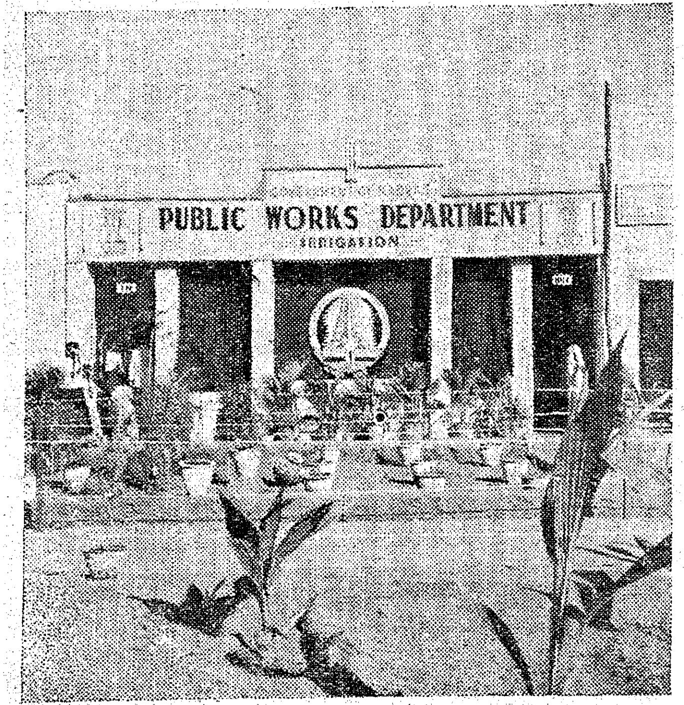
Animal Husbandry.—Numerous posters showing the different breeds of cattle, their location and distribution, their utility for drought and milch-purposes, their diseases and methods of their control and prevention were put up.

Specimens of parasites, model cow-sheds, sheep-dip, models of different breeds of cattle in India, balanced diet for different breeds, etc., were exhibited prominently. Dairy appliances, viz., cream separator, butter churners, butter workers, milk strainers, milk thermo-cans, milk bottles, capsuling machines, etc., were displayed and visitors told about the working of each appliance.

RAISE YOUR OWN VEGETABLES : *Model vegetable garden designed for the home, laid out at the Park Fair Exhibition.*



FLOWERS FOR THE HOME: Layout of a model garden at the Exhibition.



IRRIGATION STALL: Front view of the Public Works (Irrigation) Stall at the Park Fair Exhibition. Note the planted Coconut seedlings in front.

The advantages and methods of carrying out artificial insemination were demonstrated with the aid of appliances and charts.

Different breeds of sheep and goats in India with their varieties, quality of wool produced, carpets woven out of the wool, improved shearing machinery, etc., were exhibited.

All the important breeds of poultry, viz., Rhode Island Reds, Leghorns, Black Minorcas, White Sussex, Bantams, etc., were exhibited with specimens of their eggs to show the size of eggs laid by each breed.

Three stud bulls from the Veterinary College were kept at the stalls for the public to observe the good points in an ideal breeding bull.

Industries.—Shark Liver Oil (Adamin) prepared by the Government Oil Factory was exhibited.

Director of Information and Publicity.—All publications (priced and free) were kept on show and very good sales of all the publications were recorded.

Food Production (Propaganda).—A separate stall was put up for the propaganda section of the Food Production Department. Charts on the three-year plan—1949–1952—for increasing the food production, giving details on the target of each scheme, area to be benefited, annual achievements, etc., were attractively exhibited in the stall. A big chart showing the administrative set-up of the Food Production organisation was put up. Coloured posters on intensive manuring schemes, tanks improvement schemes, land development schemes, subsidies, distribution of fertilisers, rural compost, seed-multiplication schemes, etc., were put up so that visitors may be educated on the various schemes launched by the Government for increasing food production. A model of Compost-Making by the Tuticorin Municipality was also exhibited.

Award of Prices in the All-India Crop Competitions

The Government of India have awarded the certificate of "Krishi Pandit" and a cash prize of Rs. 1,000 each to the following three most successful farmers, who have been declared winners in the All-India Crop Competition in Paddy, Wheat and Potatoes, held in 1951:—

(1) *Paddy.*—Sri K. Vellayya Gounder of Thathampatti village, Krishnagiri Taluk, Salem District, Madras.

(2) *Wheat.*—Sri Padam Singh of Shiampur village, Meerut District, Uttar Pradesh.

(3) *Potatoes.*—Sri Madho Kripal of Recti Khunj village, Meerut District, Uttar Pradesh.

The yield of the plot of 2·26 acres of Sri K. Vellayya Gounder was equivalent to 12,000 pounds of paddy per acre in wet weight. The yield of the plot of three-quarters of an acre of Sri Padam Singh was equivalent to 59 maunds, 25 seers and 11 chattaks of wheat per acre. The yield of the plot of 10,000 square feet of Sri Madho Kripal was equivalent to 726 maunds, 3 seers and 3 chattaks of potatoes per acre.

Subsidy for Milk Co-operatives

The Government have sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 100 per mensem for a period of six months to the Co-operative Milk Supply Societies at Dachipalli and Thummalacheram in the Palnad area of Guntur District.

Oysters

By RICHARD CHINNATHAMBI

"Papa, what does 'Oysters' mean?" I repeated.

"It is a kind of animal. It lives in the sea. You eat them alive," he answered. "They are in shells, like tortoises, only in double shells."

"How horrible!" I exclaimed. "How hideous!"

So said the hungry urchin in Anton Chekhov's famous short story on the pangs of hunger, but he cried immediately, "Give me some oysters".

Hungry creatures long to eat anything, even raw oysters, but others generally have to cultivate a taste for oysters, raw or cooked. In fishing hamlets and river-side settlements a small variety of clams is a much sought after edible. They are called "matti-oysters". When boiled the shells open and the meat is scooped out and eaten with salt. The empty shells are dumped not far away from the dwelling huts and carted away by contractors for the production of shell lime.

The fishing families of Devanampatnam or Singaratope in Cuddalore let it be known that they do not fancy these clams, but that the Harijans of inland villages daily gather them in the back-waters for food. Fisherfolk, nonetheless, have a tooth for "Oomatchi", a diminutive species of clams which are boiled with the shell and the contents picked out. The multi-coloured shells when rid of their abnoxious odour are prized by Europeans who string them for decorations.

Once A Thriving Trade

The gathering of oysters was a thriving trade in Devanampatnam when the English Club was flourishing here. It could not have been otherwise with French champagne so readily available, Pondicherry being almost next door, which together with oysters would have conspired into a combination irresistable to clubmen hungering for snacks in the evenings. And strange as it may seem, oysters grew in plenty then, says Munia Padayachi, the only man today who goes under in the Pennar back-waters. He is 65 and a cultivator on other people's lands till Friday comes round. Then he is in the waters by 7 a.m. He seeks oysters on rocks and stones to which they attach themselves.

Broken loose, they are brought to the surface and collected in a basket. With a chopper they are cleft open and the meat is scooped out. The entire contents are eatable and locally in demand only for medicinal purposes. Limited orders especially for the treatment of bile are sometimes placed with him. Each oyster (meat) by itself weighs from 1 to 2 palams but Munia Padayachi gathers them with their shells to comply with orders from Bangalore. Ex-butlers still find it worthwhile to book orders from out-stations. For the Sunday dinner in the English Club of Bangalore usually 1,000 oysters are packed off on Saturday from here. Munia Padayachi is able to do that much, if he is in water all Friday.

Gunny-bags for Gourmets

The butler middleman pays the fisher Munia Padayachi eight annas for 100 oysters with shell; 200 are packed in a gunny worth eight annas per 100 or four annas for a gunny full. At Re. 1-4-0 therefore five such sacks find their way to the station: and to see them labelled and safely parcelled off, the porter is paid a mamool of three annas in all. The railway freight is Rs. 2 per maund and at two maunds for 1,000 oysters the gourmets of Bangalore are assured of their favourite dish every Sunday.

The butler middleman gets them Re. 1-4-0 per 100 or Rs. 50 per month by money order when Munia Padayachi is paid his monthly wages at Rs. 20. The middleman's rake-off is Rs. 30 per mensem net as he gets all overhead charges met by the purchaser; whereas Munia Padayachi has to renew his basket at four annas each and the chopper at Rs. 2 each and nurse his thumb and two other fingers into the bargain which are disfigured by cuts sustained while groping under water for oysters. But oyster catching is not his main sustenance of life, literally and metaphorically, although he is not above helping himself to two or three of them while catching; an adult can safely tuck away five raw without groaning from indigestion.

Eat More Oysters!

He is thankful, however, for this money he is able to make by pursuing an ancestral occupation. He complains his children do not take to oyster-catching. Fancy prices are no doubt paid when oysters are sought after for medicinal purposes, but even the steady demand from Bangalore and other occasional orders from Madurai and Tiruchirappalli do not justify the pursuit of the trade as a means of livelihood for any individual, much less a family.

When I suggested that he should try to feed his oysters Munia Padayachi burst out laughing. He said they just "growed" (may be like Topsy) and all he had to do was to put into the water sufficient quantity of rough stones for the oysters to adhere to and grow. The idea of fattening for the market is still unpopular with livestock producers in our scorched earth. Munia Padayachi believed mere salt water was good enough for his oysters and the only time he was anxious was when floods in the River Pennar held out for more than four days. Oysters gasp for fresh water and die out and the seeds are destroyed for some time.

But then there is the other persistent danger of a change in one's eating habits, even in the Englishman's preferences in India, and then there will be no more orders for Munia Padayachi. Perhaps it would be wise to popularise oyster-eating locally and create a taste and a steady and cultured demand for this rare delicacy. Even though they are "horrible" and "hideous", the pangs of widespread hunger in the stomachs of the common man will not allow discrimination on this ground and in time to come, like Oliver Twist, they will ask for more and then perhaps the sons of Munia Padayachi will be assured of a living.

Sweet Toddy for Jaggery

The Government have permitted tapping of coconut trees for sweet toddy for jaggery manufacture on cooperative basis in Coimbatore Taluk and Vaniputhur Firka of Gobichettipalayam Taluk in Coimbatore District.

The Madras Foodgrains Intensive Procurement Order has been amended for the purpose of extending the Scheme of Intensive Procurement of Paddy and Rice to the villages in Pithapuram and Peddapuram Taluks of East Godavari District which are irrigated under Yeluru river. (G.O. Ms. No. 89, Food and Agriculture, dated 23rd January 1952.)

The Madras Foodgrains Intensive Procurement Order, 1951, has been amended for the purpose of bringing the purchase and sale of standing food-crops before harvest within the scope of the Order. (G.O. Ms. No. 106, Food and Agriculture, dated 28th January 1952.)

The Scheme of Intensive Procurement of Paddy and Rice has been extended to 84 villages in the upland taluks of Pithapuram and Peddapuram which are irrigated by the Yeluru river. Consequently the Madras Foodgrains Price Control Order, 1951, issued in G.O. Ms. No. 2292, Food and Agriculture, dated 30th November 1951, has been amended so as to make the notified procurement and f.o.r. prices applicable to these 84 villages also. (G.O. Ms. No. 88, Food and Agriculture, dated 23rd January 1952.)

THE MADRAS FOODGRAINS PROCUREMENT ORDER, 1947

Clause 4 of the Order has been amended so as to permit the removal by a landlord, the crop of a notified foodgrain in the form of sheaves to the threshing floor or place of storage in the village in which the crop has been harvested or to his (landlord's) usual threshing floor or place of storage in an adjoining village. (G.O. Ms. No. 60, Food and Agriculture, dated 18th January 1952.)

THE MADRAS FOODGRAINS (LEVY PROCUREMENT) ORDER, 1951

This Order applies to the entire South Kanara District and to the delta areas of South Arcot, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli Districts and to the specified areas irrigated under the Nagavalli and Vamsadhara rivers in Srikakulam District, in which the levy system of procurement is being worked in pursuance of the revised food policy of the Government. The delta areas of South Arcot, Madurai, and Tiruchirappalli Districts to which the Order applies have been defined as large patches of wet lands irrigated under some river or channel systems (as opposed to what are generally known as precarious sources) on which crops have not failed this year. This Order applies to paddy, rice and millets also in South Arcot District, and to paddy and rice alone in the remaining districts. This Order requires producers to deliver to the Collector or agents appointed and notified by him foodgrains calculated at a scale of levy fixed for the district. The scale of levy is so fixed that it is easy and does not deprive the producer of his entire surplus. This Order empowers the Collector to call for declaration of stocks from producers. The Order also provides for seizure and confiscation of the vehicles, animals, etc., used for transporting foodgrains sold in contravention of the Order. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Order or directions issued thereunder will entail the seizure and disposal of stocks, besides other punishments.

An amendment has been issued to Schedule II to the Madras Foodgrains (Levy Procurement) Order, 1951, for the purpose of altering scale of levy fixed for South Kanara District. In view of the several representations made to the Government that the previous scale of levy fixed for the district was excessive and deprived the producers of even their bona fide requirements, the Government have slightly reduced the scale so as to make it easy.

Amendments have been issued to the Schedule to the Madras Foodgrains (Levy Procurement) Order, 1951, for the purpose of altering the scale of levy fixed for Srikakulam District and also altering the names of certain villages in the Schedules to the Order in respect of South Arcot and Srikakulam Districts.

SALT PRICE CONTROL ORDER, 1947

This Order specifies the maximum ex-factory wholesale price of salt per imperial maund (exclusive of the cost of the gunny and cess) for each of the salt-producing districts of the State. The price varies between 12 annas to 15 annas per imperial maund. The Collectors of the districts have been empowered by the Central Government to fix the wholesale and retail prices of salt for each consuming area within their respective jurisdictions, subject to any directions issued by the State Government. The wholesale price fixed for each consuming area includes the ex-factory price, cost of the gunny, transport charges, handling charges and wholesaler's profits of 6½ per cent. The retail price for each consuming area is fixed suitably on the basis of wholesale price fixed for that area. No producer, wholesaler or retailer, should sell salt at a price exceeding the notified price. Failure to comply with any of the instructions will render a dealer punishable in a Court of Law.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

THE MADRAS RATIONING (PREPARATORY MEASURES) ORDER, 1947

This Order enables Government to take the preliminary steps such as enumeration of house-holders, etc., for the introduction of statutory rationing in any area. In an area where this Order has been extended with a view to the introduction of statutory rationing in that area, Government may authorize any person to collect information and statistics necessary for the rationing of foodstuffs. Every person of whom any question is asked by the enquiry officer authorized by the Government in connection with the rationing of foodstuffs, is legally bound to answer such questions. Every person occupying any premises shall allow the numbering officer or enquiry officer such access thereto as may be required for the purpose.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector in respect of the Nilgiris District or the District Supply Officer concerned in respect of other districts.

THE MADRAS RATIONING ENQUIRY ORDER, 1947

This Order enables the Government to call for the necessary particulars from establishments in an area where statutory rationing is proposed to be introduced. In an area where this Order has been extended, every person owning or in charge of any establishment in that area shall furnish to the officer specified by the Government true and

correct information relating to such establishments as may be required by the said officer if such establishment desires to obtain rationed articles for consumption after the rationing date.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector in respect of the Nilgiris District or the District Supply Officer concerned in respect of other districts.

THE MADRAS RATIONING ORDER, 1947

This Order regulates the distribution of rationed articles to house-holders, establishments, retailers and wholesalers in the statutorily rationed areas.

The following is the list of offences under this rationing order :—

1. It is illegal to transfer one's ration card to any other person.

2. It is illegal to use another person's ration card.

3. Defacing or destroying one's ration card is wrong. Further, a new card in place of a lost one can be got only on payment of a fine of two annas.

4. Every change in the members of a family owing to death or absence from the household for a period of not less than seven days shall be reported to the Rationing Officer within ten days in the case of death of members and within 14 days in the case of absence of a member from the household.

5. Change of address of card-holders should be reported to the Rationing Officer within ten days from the date on which the change takes place.

6. Rations should not be drawn for a person who is not in the rationed area.

7. If a card-holder is leaving the ration area permanently, he should return the ration card to the Rationing Officer. If a card-holder is leaving the rationed area with his family temporarily for a period of not less than eight weeks he should surrender the ration card to the Rationing Officer.

8. Rations should not be drawn for the same person on more than one ration card.

9. Possession of more than one card is an offence.

10. Rationed articles should not be purchased from an unauthorised dealer and except on a ration card.

11. A land-holder owning lands in a rationed area should intimate the date of harvest of his lands to the Rationing Officer and should obtain a permit from the Rationing Officer either for retaining the produce for consumption or for transporting the quantity outside the rationed area or for selling the surplus grain with him.

12. A land-holder in a rationed area who imports grain from his lands outside for personal consumption, etc., shall inform the Rationing Officer of the date of arrival of the consignment and the place of storage, and should keep account for the quantity spent.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector in respect of the Nilgiris District or the District Supply Officer concerned in respect of other districts.

Under the Madras Rationing Order, 1947, the foodgrains transported illegally without a permit will, hereafter, be seized and confiscated together with the containers and coverings thereof and the animals, vehicles, vessels, or other conveyances used in carrying the said articles. (G.O. Ms. No. 2217, Food and Agriculture, dated 15th November 1951.)

Amendments have been issued to G.O. Ms. No. 478, Food and Agriculture, dated 27th May 1948, permitting the land-holders to import the produce of rice from their own lands at the rate of 12 oz. per adult per day for their personal consumption as against 10 oz. previously allowed.

The Madras Rationing Order, 1947, has been amended so as to empower the Rationing Officers to take samples of any articles for examination, in respect of which they have any reason to believe that any contravention of the Madras Rationing Order, 1947, has taken place or is taking place. (G.O. No. Ms. 77, Food and Agriculture, dated 21st January 1952.)

THE ESSENTIAL ARTICLES RESTRICTED ACQUISITION ORDER, 1947

This Order is in force throughout the State. Under this Order, no person shall acquire any essential articles, viz., paddy, rice, beaten rice, millets, wheat, maida, maize or rice flour, if by so doing the quantity thereof in his possession or under his control will exceed the normal quantity required for consumption in the household or establishment during the period of one month. This limit has since been increased to six months' requirements at the rate of 12 oz. per adult per day in respect of the derationed areas of deficit districts and the deficit taluks of surplus districts where intensive procurement has been abolished. The restrictions do not apply to the acquisition in the ordinary course of his business of any essential article by a person carrying on the business of a producer, dealer, manufacturer, carrier or warehouseman.

The Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition Order has been made applicable to persons who carry on in the essential articles the business of a producer, if they draw those articles as rations from a ration shop on their ration cards.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector in respect of the Nilgiris District or the District Supply Officer or Collector concerned in respect of other districts.

THE MADRAS FOOD (RESTRICTIONS ON SERVICE OF MEALS BY CATERING ESTABLISHMENT) ORDER, 1947

This applies to the whole of the State. Under this Order, no catering establishment shall supply or offer or attempt to supply for consumption and no person shall obtain or consume or attempt to obtain or consume at or in connexion with any catering establishment for purposes of any single meal more than three courses. The three courses shall consist of (*a*) one substantial dish, (*b*) one subsidiary dish and (*c*) one sweet dish or (*a*) two subsidiary dishes and (*b*) one sweet dish.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector in respect of the Nilgiris District or the District Supply Officer concerned in respect of other districts.

THE MADRAS GUEST CONTROL ORDER

This Order, which came into force on 13th February 1951 and extends to the whole of the State of Madras, restricts the number of guests at marriage, funeral or other parties. Excluding the host and members of his household, no person shall provide food at any party other than a marriage party or a funeral party, for more than 24 persons, at any marriage party for more than two principal meals or for more than 50 persons at each such meal, at any funeral party for more than one meal or for more than 50 persons at such meal.

THE COTTON CROP (COMPULSORY GROWTH WITH CHILLIES) ORDER, 1950

This Order extends to the whole of the State of Madras. At present the Order has been made effective only in the districts of Guntur, Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari and according to this no person can cultivate the rainfed crop of chillies in these districts except as a crop mixed with cotton in the proportion of not less than one line of cotton plant to every 14 lines of chilli plants.

THE MADRAS MANURE DEALERS' LICENSING ORDER, 1949

The Madras Manure Dealers' Licensing Order, 1947, has been re-issued as the Madras Manure Dealers' Licensing Order, 1949.

An amendment issued on November 25, 1950, lists the names under which manure materials are sold and the definitions implied in the sale of manure articles against those particular names, and notifies that the sale of an article under any of the defined names shall constitute a warrant that it accords with the implied definition. Further, the particulars of the implied definition should be marked on the manure bags, in addition to the name under which the manure is sold, the gross weight and the name of the manufacturers.

An amendment issued on December 29, 1950, gives the enhanced rates per annum of licence fees for the different classes of licensees.

Another amendment, dated December 29, 1950, explains that: (1) in cases where a mixing or miller's licence has been obtained, no other licence under the Order is necessary; (2) mixing or miller's licence will have to be taken by the licensee in respect of each centre where mixing or crushing is carried on; and (3) in the case of manure mixtures, a non-recurring fee of Rs. 50 for each mixture shall be payable. If the analysis of any mixture is changed, it will be regarded as a new mixture for the purpose of this Order and a fresh registration fee shall be payable.

An amendment issued on 24th January 1951 states :

"Every licence shall ordinarily be renewed before the expiry of its term; but applications for renewal will be received up to 30th June of the financial year for which the renewal is applied for, on payment of the prescribed fee and in addition, a penalty of rupees two for each such application."

According to an amendment issued on January 5, 1952, the approved form of licence issued under this Order will provide in future suitable columns for incorporating the following details at the time of the renewal of licences :—

1. Year for which licence is renewed ;
2. Date of renewal ;
3. Fee ;
4. Chalan number and name of treasury ;
5. Penalty if any ;
6. Chalan number, date and name of treasury ;
7. Signature of licensing authority ; and
8. Remarks.

The three classes of licences issued under this Order will in future be issued in three distinct colours as shown :

Class of licence.	*Colour.*
1. Oil Mills	Green.
2. Dealers in manure	Red.
3. Firms engaged in manure mixing trade.	White.

THE MADRAS MANURE MIXTURE QUALITY AND PRICE CONTROL ORDER, 1950

According to this Order only firms of standing dealing in manure and approved by the Government of Madras on the recommendations of the Fertiliser Advisory Committee through the Director of Agriculture shall manufacture and market manure mixtures. The firms dealing in manure shall legibly mark on the manure bags the following particulars :—

(*a*) The registered brand and name of the manure mixture ;

(*b*) The organic and inorganic, total P_2O_5, W.S. P_2O_5, K_2O contents of the manure mixture denoted by the letters N, P (T), P (S) and K respectively.

(*c*) The registered name of the firm.

(*d*) The crop or crops for which the manure mixture is suitable ; and in the case of a general mixture for all crops the expression "All Crops".

(*e*) The gross contents by weight in pounds.

The manure mixture will have to be sold at the prices approved by the Joint Director of Agriculture. The fertiliser mixture shall be put up in the market in sealed bags, to obviate the contents being tampered with without breaking the seal. The firms dealing in manure shall not alter the ingredients, or the guaranteed analysis, or the price of the manure mixture, except with the previous approval of the Joint Director of Agriculture.

THE MADRAS OILCAKE (MOVEMENT CONTROL) ORDER, 1951

The Madras Oilcake (Movement Control) Order, 1943, re-issued as the Madras Oilcake (Movement Control), Order, 1949, has been annulled, and restrictions on the movement of oilcakes, both within and outside the State, have been removed.

MADRAS FOODGRAINS CONTROL ORDER, 1947

This Order exercises control on the purchase, sale and storage beyond certain limit (i.e. 10 maunds in the case of purchase, sale and storage for sale and 15 maunds in the case of storage for purposes other than those of sale) of the following foodgrains and the products thereof by a system of licensing :—

Wheat, paddy (rice in the husk) including fried paddy and parched paddy, rice (husked) including beaten rice, puffed rice and parched rice, cholam (Jowar), cumbu (Bajra), ragi, korra, maize (zea mays) and rye. For the grant of a licence under this Order for dealing in foodgrains, one must have been in the foodgrains trade at any

time prior to 22nd June 1942, the date on which this Order first came into force.

A licence fee of Rs. 24 per annum is chargeable for each licence or exemption certificate issued or to be issued under the Order.

The Commissioner of Civil Supplies or an officer authorised by him in this behalf may in special cases condone any delay in the payment of the said fee up to any period specified by him on payment of a penalty of Rs. 2 in each such case.

Every applicant should produce satisfactory evidence to prove that he was in the foodgrains trade during the period prescribed. He should not also have been found guilty at any time of hoarding or black-marketing offences under the Control Orders or even strongly suspected of having indulged in such anti-social activities. Harijans, co-operative societies, hand-pounding concerns, ex-abkari contractors, ex-servicemen's associations, etc., are exempted in deserving cases from the conditions regarding the previous business standing.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

MADRAS FOODGRAINS (MOVEMENT CONTROL) ORDER, 1947

(G.O. Ms. No. 720, Food, dated 14th June 1947.)

This Order controls the movement of foodgrains from places within the State of Madras to places outside it by a system of permits created in certain cases and under certain conditions specified in the Order. Permits under the Order are issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras. A week's ration at the prescribed scale forming part of the luggage of bona fide travellers and grains intended for bona fide sowing purposes granted under a certificate issued by an Officer of the Madras Agricultural Department not below the rank of District Agricultural Officer and foodgrains transported under Military Credit Notes are exempted from the operation of the Order.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

This Order has been extended to apply in the case of imports of foodgrains. A permit is necessary for the import of foodgrains into the State.

ORDER PROHIBITING THE PLYING OF MOTOR VEHICLES DURING NIGHTS

According to this Order no driver, owner, or other person in charge of a motor vehicle for which a public carrier's permit or a private carrier's permit has been granted shall, when such vehicle carries paddy, rice, millets, wheat and their products (excluding products of foodgrains which are used as cattlefeed, viz., rice, bran, wheat bran, bran and husks of millets and maize), drive it or cause it to be driven between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. on any road or land notified by the District Magistrate in the districts and by the Collector of Madras in Madras.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

THE MADRAS FOODGRAINS PROCUREMENT ORDER, 1947

The Madras Foodgrains Procurement Order, 1947, as corrected up-to-date incorporating all amendments, has been republished for the benefit of the Malabar public. The Order controls and regulates the procurement, sale and purchase of notified foodgrains in the Malabar District.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

This Order is in force in Malabar District only.

Under this Order the quantity harvested in each holding is at the disposal of the Collector, who, after allowing enough for the consumption and cultivation requirements of the holder, can procure the surplus. The price of the surplus shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Madras Foodgrains Price Control Order, 1951.

Under the Madras Foodgrains Procurement Order, 1947, the foodgrains transported illegally without a permit will hereafter be seized and confiscated together with the containers and coverings thereof and the animals, vehicles, vessels or other conveyances used in carrying the said foodgrains (G.O. Ms. No. 2258, Food and Agriculture, dated 24th November 1951).

THE MADRAS RICE MILLS LICENSING ORDER, 1951

The Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1947, has been re-issued as the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1951. This Order extends to the whole of this State and came into force on 19th April 1951. Under this Order, a licence from the District Collector is necessary for running a rice mill and no licensee can increase the hulling capacity of his mill by installing additional machinery or in any other way except with the permission of the District Collector. Licences issued under this Order have to be renewed year after year. A licence fee of Rs. 24 is levied for every licence and for every renewal thereof. The licensee will have to deposit with the District Collector such sum as may be specified by the latter for the due performance by the former of his duties as a licensee under this Order. The District Collector has power to order the forfeiture of the deposit mentioned above either in whole or in part for breach of any of the provisions of this Order or any of the conditions of the licence without prejudice to any other action that may be taken against the licensee. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies or any other officer authorised by him can suspend or cancel the licence for contravention of any of the provisions of the Order or any of the conditions of the licence.

RESTRICTIONS ON MILLING OF PADDY

The restrictions on milling of paddy are in force in the surplus areas of the surplus districts, in Malabar, the Nilgiris and South Kanara and in the areas in South Arcot, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Srikakulam districts where procurement by levy is in force. According to these restrictions, a permit from certain specified officials is necessary for hulling paddy. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies has extended these restrictions to the villages in belt areas lying within a belt of six miles from the sea-coast in the districts of Ramanathapuram and South Arcot, from where smuggling is likely to take place, and to the

fifteen firkas and centres where the Government have ordered that paddy or hand-pounded rice alone should be sold in ration shops.

THE MADRAS TAPIOCA (MOVEMENT) ORDER, 1948

This Order prohibits the export of tapioca and its products except sago from the districts of Malabar, South Kanara, the Nilgiris and Coimbatore except under and in accordance with a permit issued in that behalf by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies or the Collector concerned. This Order does not apply to the export of tapioca under Military Credit Notes.

The Collector of Malabar has, by a notification issued on 9th January 1952, relaxed the ban on the movement of tapioca and its products except sago from Malabar District to all destinations for a period of three months or until the Collector's notification is revoked, whichever is earlier.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

THE MADRAS FOODGRAINS (RESTRICTED PLEDGING WITH BANKS) ORDER, 1950

This Order imposes certain restrictions on the pledging of the procured stocks of paddy and rice with banks by the procuring agents in the State.

THE MADRAS SUGAR DEALERS' LICENSING ORDER, 1951

This Order directs that wholesale dealers for sugar should be licensed and that permits either from the Commissioner of Civil Supplies or his nominee are necessary.

The Collectors have been empowered to fix the wholesale and retail prices of sugar.

GRAM CONTROL ORDERS

Gram Control Orders in force in the State of Madras have been rescinded. The Government of India have fixed the prices of Bengalgram (whole), Bengalgram dhall and flour at which they may be bought or sold in Madras State at Rs. 15 per imperial maund, Rs. 17 per imperial maund and Rs. 18 per imperial maund, respectively.

MANURE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER

By an Order, dated 18th April 1951, restrictions on inter-State movement of fish-meal, fish-guano, bones, bone super, bone-meal, hoofs, horn, hoof-meal or horn-meal have been removed.

ORDER RELATING TO THE TRANSPORT OF FOODGRAINS WITHIN THE STATE

(G.O. Ms. No. 550, Food, dated 18th June 1948.)

Notification I.

This notification relates to the restrictions on the movement of paddy and rice, millets, wheat and their products from one district to another in Madras State. This is intended to check unauthorised and unlawful movement of grains from one place to another in the State.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

Notification II.

This relates to the restrictions on the import foodgrains into British Cochin. Permits are granted by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or by an Officer authorised by him or by the Revenue Divisional Officer, British Cochin.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector of Malabar.

ORDER RELATING TO THE TRANSPORT OF PADDY AND RICE WITHIN THE STATE FOR PERSONAL CONSUMPTION

(G.O. Ms. No. 478, Food, dated 27th May 1948.)

According to this Order, a landholder residing in a district other than that in which he owns lands can transport paddy or rice from the produce of his lands for his personal consumption in accordance with a permit issued by the Collector or any other officer authorised by him and in quantities not exceeding six months' requirements at a time.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

PADDY STRAW CONTROL ORDER

The Paddy Straw (Prevention of use for packing) Prohibition Order, 1951, has been rescinded by the Government of India (vide Order of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India, No. F. 30–13/51-EP, dated 28th January 1952).

ZONAL SCHEME OF MOVEMENT OF PADDY AND RICE

(G.O. Ms. No. 1161, Food and Agriculture, dated 5th June 1951.)

According to this Order, paddy and rice or products thereof cannot be transported from any place within a zone to any place outside it formed in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, and Nellore except under a permit issued by the Collector of the district concerned or by any Officer authorised by him.

This Order was enforced in the interests of the intensive procurement.

The Order (i.e. G.O. Ms. No. 1161, Food and Agriculture, dated 5th June 1951) relating to the restriction on the movement of paddy or rice or products thereof from one zone to another zone formed in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur and Nellore has been amended by adding certain villages to or deleting some from the list of villages mentioned in Schedule I to the notification appended to the Order (G.O. Ms. No. 2481, Food and Agriculture, dated 31st December 1951).

THE MADRAS FLOUR (USE IN MAKING PASTE OR STARCH) PROHIBITION ORDER, 1947

This Order prohibits the use of flour for making paste or starch except under a permit issued by the City Rationing Officer, Madras, District Supply Officer, etc., or an authorisation given by the Government.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

ORDER RELATING TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE OUTPUT OF BRAN WHEN MILLING WHEAT

(G.O. Ms. No. 940, Food, dated 22nd August 1947.)

According to this Order, all flour mills situated within the State of Madras shall, when milling wheat, restrict the output of bran to five per cent of the whole wheat.

Prosecutions for the infringement of the conditions of this Order should be launched only with the previous sanction of the Collector concerned.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

THE COTTON CONTROL ORDER, 1950

This Order provides control over contracts relating to sale or purchase of cotton and over sale of cotton to specified persons at specified prices.

THE MADRAS DRUGS CONTROL ORDINANCE, 1949

In order to ensure that essential drugs continue to be sold at reasonable prices even after devaluation, the Madras Drugs Control Ordinance, 1949, was promulgated by the Government. The Ordinance provides for the control of the sale, supply and distribution of drugs in the Madras State.

The Ordinance has since been replaced by the Madras Drugs (Control) Act, 1949 (Madras Act XXX of 1949).

RURAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

THE MADRAS KHADI ORDER, 1949

The provisions of the Order prohibit a person to carry on business as a producer or dealer of hand-spun yarn and Khadi in the State of Madras except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence issued to him for the purpose.

Further, the Order states that no person who is a producer or a dealer in mill-made yarn or cloth woven out of such mill-made yarn shall carry on the business of a producer or a dealer in hand-pound yarn or Khadi. No hawker shall be licensed to deal in hand-spun yarn or Khadi. The sale price of Khadi should not exceed the aggregate of the cost of production of the cloth plus 15⅝ per cent thereof.

No person shall weave cloth partly from hand-spun and partly from mill-made cotton yarn or sell or otherwise dispose of any cloth so woven. No person shall also spin by any yarn from mill-made cotton slivers or mill-waste cotton or otherwise dispose of any yarn so spun and no producer or dealer shall deal in such yarn.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

THE MADRAS BUILDINGS (LEASE AND RENT CONTROL) ACT, 1949

This Act seeks to regulate the letting of residential and non-residential buildings and to control the rent for such buildings and to prevent unreasonable eviction of tenants therefrom in the State of Madras, and applies to the City of Madras, all Municipalities within the State, and such other areas as may be notified in the Gazette by the Government of Madras from time to time.

To remove certain practical difficulties which were experienced in administrating the Act, the Act has been amended in certain respects. The amendments have come into force from May 1951. The important amendments that have been made have been explained in Press Note No. 71, P.W. (I. & P.), dated May 1951.

CEMENT CONTROL ORDER, 1949

This Order controls the sale of cement.

By an amendment issued on 3rd April 1951, licensed cement factories are authorised to sell up to one wagon load (not exceeding 25 tons) direct to each individual consumer without a permit, such sales not to exceed 20 per cent of their monthly production.

Another amendment issued on 3rd April 1951 requires licensees to submit particulars of such free sales of cement. Licensees shall not default in selling cement to permit holders.

Amendments issued to the Cement Control Order on 30th May 1951 provide that :

The price of all Portland cement produced in India, exclusive of the cost of containers, if any, shall not exceed Rs. 71 per ton ;

The price of Digvijay, India and Travancore Cements, exclusive of the cost of containers, shall be Rs. 78–8–0 per ton full wagon loads f.o.r. destination.

The actual cost of gunny bags, subject to a maximum of Rs. 26 per ton of cement, if supplied wholly in new gunnies, may be charged, in addition to the price of the cement specified above ;

The price leviable for the cost of packing for supplies in paper bags or old gunny bags, which may be settled between the purchaser and the supplier, shall not exceed Rs. 26 per ton of cement.

An amendment issued on 1st November 1951 provides further that an insurance fee of Re. 0–10–0 (annas ten) per ton may be collected by the supplier when the cement is despatched in open wagons with the concurrence of the purchaser.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

RESETTLEMENT OF RELEASED ARMY PERSONNEL

An Order, dated 12th April 1951, seeks to implement the Central Government suggestion that demobilised military personnel should be given every preference in all avenues of service. In every case where an ex-soldier is found *prima facie* suitable for employment under this Government, the relaxation of technical restrictions including age bar will be considered.

Motor Vehicles Control Order

The Government have exempted all commercially imported transport motor vehicles from all the provisions, except clause 23, of the Commercially Imported Transport Motor Vehicles Control Order, 1945.

The Malampuzha Project

The Government have seen criticisms in the Press in regard to the execution of the Malampuzha Project. The correct position is as follows :—

The Madras Government made a provision of Rs. 11·04 crores for capital expenditure on irrigation projects in 1951–52, including the Tungabhadra and Lower Bhavani Projects, subject to a lump-sum deduction of Rs. 167 lakhs for probable savings. In the normal course of events, this programme would have gone through without difficulty, if assistance to the extent anticipated from the Centre when the Budget was framed, by way of loans, or permission to float loans locally, or to sell Government securities, had been available.

Due to an unexpected turn of events, the Government of India found themselves unable to give the necessary accommodation assumed, with the result that the whole Development Programme had to be financed from local resources and the small loan that this Government was allowed to float. The anticipated savings of Rs. 167 lakhs, a large part of which was to have been found under the Lower Bhavani and Tungabhadra Projects, did not also materialise. Repeated representations were made to the Government of India, but the Central Government found themselves unable to assist.

Finally, after a high level discussion at Delhi, the Central Government agreed to allow help only in regard to the Lower Bhavani and Tungabhadra Projects; otherwise these two projects too would have had to be slowed down. But, inasmuch as the savings of Rs. 167 lakhs budgeted for originally could not be found and as the balance of amount budgeted for all other projects had been nearly spent, or commitments had been incurred which had to be liquidated before 31st March, drastic steps had to be taken to keep the expenditure within the resources of the State Government. Even in this reckoning, the Malampuzha Project was given the highest priority as a work in progress, but the expenditure on all projects and especially the Malampuzha Project, had reached, by November, almost the budgeted figures with the savings deducted, so that no resources were at all available to maintain the programme of execution scheduled for the projects. Government had therefore no alternative but to slow down the execution of all the projects.

Restricted to Essential Portions

To maintain activity on the Malampuzha Project at the level reached in December would have called for a large sum far beyond the resources in sight. The work on the Project was therefore restricted to the essential portions, namely, the spillway and the earth dam in the headworks, and to the two important aqueducts on the canal, both of which had to be done before the monsoon if the completion date was not to be unduly postponed. It may be pointed out that most of the earth work on the canal had been done already and it only remains to excavate some of the distributaries and also do the masonry work on the canal to complete it, up to the point on the canal taken up for the first stage of development. The reduction under other projects like the Mettur Canals Scheme has been even more drastic. These works have also all been affected in an even great measure than the Malampuzha, but not much momentum had been gained in their execution, so that the contraction of the programme meant postponement or stopping of works just started or scattered over large areas.

The works on the Malampuzha Project however is concentrated more or less in and around Palghat and the slowing down of work has been more striking. But for the specific help promised to the Lower Bhavani and Tungabhadra Projects, those projects also would have had to be slowed down appreciably. It was as a result therefore of the policy of the Central Government, necessitated by lack of funds, that this slowing down of execution of the other projects had been found inevitable. The State Government are not unaware of the difficulties attendant on such policy, but there is no escape from it, the situation having been forced on them due to circumstances beyond their control.

All the Workers Not Sent Away

It is not a fact that all the labour on the Malampuzha Project has been sent away. The reduction in the number of workers at the headworks is about 60 per cent of the total number previously employed, and in the canals about 70 per cent. A special difficulty about maintaining the pace of the programme was the method of execution adopted, which required that job workers had to be paid immediately work was done; so there was no way of postponing expenditure if the full programme was to be kept up. Some of the temporary works establishment, whose strength varies with the labour force, had necessarily to be discharged, but they will all be taken back as soon as funds become available and the Project can be resumed in a full measure.

As regards the amount of cement required, the offtake of cement depends on the nature of works undertaken and in as much as this is confined to the spillway which is in the river portion of the main dam, the most difficult part of the work, the requirements of cement are being so regulated as to use the existing stocks and with reference to the limited needs of the portions of the work which are in progress. Work can be done even in the rainy season on the other portions of the masonry dam and the other masonry items, and the offtake will then increase correspondingly.

The Government of Madras have made further representations to the Government of India, urging that Government to extend financial assistance towards the execution of the Malampuzha Project. If the Government of India agree to this, it would be possible to expedite the completion of the Project.

Distribution of Building Materials

The Government have entrusted the Co-operative Societies Stores, Thambarahalli, in Bellary District, with the distribution of building materials, such as iron and steel, asbestos cement sheets, etc., to the families displaced by the execution of the Tungabhadra Project.

Relief Measures in Chittoor and Cuddapah

The adverse seasonal conditions in the current fasli (1361) have caused considerable disappointment and distress to the agricultural population of this State. This is the fifth successive year when the rainfall during the south-west monsoon was either inadequate or untimely and the north-east monsoon failed over large tracts. As a result scarcity conditions are prevailing in the districts of Cuddapah, Chittoor, Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli, and Coimbatore, the worst affected being Cuddapah and Chittoor. In most of these districts, the normal cultivable area has not been brought under the plough, and the outturn of the harvests has not also been satisfactory. The First and the Third Members of the Board of Revenue inspected the districts of Chittoor and Cuddapah respectively and studied the prevailing conditions at first hand.

The following relief measures have been undertaken in the districts to alleviate distress:

1. *Cuddapah.*—Forty-seven minor irrigation works, 189 rural water-supply works, eight District Board road works and 19 food production works provide employment in the district to 3,727 labourers per day. Proposals for opening more minor irrigation, and District Board road works and for the taking up of the earth work of the Sagileru Project are under consideration and orders will be issued soon. The Board of Revenue has already asked the Collector of Cuddapah to take up the earth work of the Sagileru Project in anticipation of sanction.

Seventeen gruel centres are functioning in the district in which gruel is distributed to distressed persons. A sum of Rs. 14,000 has so far been allotted from the grant received from the Hon'ble Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds. It is proposed to open more such centres and an additional sum of Rs. 88,000 has been sanctioned from State funds for this purpose. Special remissions have been granted on a liberal scale for fasli 1361.

A sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been allotted to the district for disbursement of loans free of interest for deepening field wells and another sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been sanctioned towards distribution of subsistence loans. In order to relieve fodder scarcity the reserve forests have been thrown open for free grazing and free penning of cattle and free removal of hill grass in headloads. The question of importing fodder from surplus districts and from other reserve forests and opening fodder depots is also engaging the attention of the Government.

2. *Chittoor:*—There are 50 Districts Board road works, 82 food production works and five rural water-supply works in progress in the district, giving employment on an average of 4,274 labourers per day. A sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been sanctioned for subsistence loans. The reserve forests have been thrown open for free grazing of cattle.

Special remissions on a liberal scale have been sanctined for fasli 1361. Twenty-eight gruel centres are functioning in the district for distributing free gruel to the indigent and destitute persons. A sum of Rs. 76,000 has been sanctioned so far from out of the grant received from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds for this purpose. After this grant is exhausted the question of continuing these centres at the cost of State funds will be considered.

3. *Guntur, Kurnool and Bellary Districts.*—Special reports about the prevailing seasonal conditions and the relief measures that are necessary have been called for from the Collectors, and their reports are awaited. A sum of Rs. 5,000 has been allotted for the Kurnool District from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds grant. There are 25 gruel centres working in the district. A sum of Rs. 1,500 has similarly been allotted for Bellary District and one gruel centre in Rayadrug Taluk is functioning.

Prize Offered for Best Model of Village Ghani

The Indian Central Oilseeds Committee has called for fresh entries for the competition for the best model of village ghani. A prize of Rs. 5,000 has been offered to any person or body who designs the best model of village ghani and demonstrates its working to the satisfaction of the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee, or a competent body appointed by it.

The improved ghani should fulfil the following conditions:

The capacity of the ghani per charge should be over 10 seers; the time taken to crush one charge should be not more than one hour in the case of *til* seed; must be run by a single bullock; the price should not exceed Rs. 200; the cake should not contain more than 10 per cent of oil. A prelimiminary selection will be made on the basis of the particulars, supplied by the competitors, regarding their models. The selected models would be required to be demonstrated at a place to be decided by the Committee later.

When models are selected for final demonstration, the persons concerned will be informed about the date on which they are expected to demonstrate their models. The prize winner will have to surrender the right on the ghani. The Committee may purchase it by paying its cost of manufacture, which in no case should exceed Rs. 200 and the Committee will have the patent right.

Those desirous of competing for the prize, should send a diagramatic sketch drawn to scale, giving full details of working, outturn, cost, etc., to the Secretary, Indian Central Oilseeds Committee, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Room No. 345, Block No. IX, Shah Jahan Road, New Delhi-2, so as to reach him not later than August 31, 1952.

4. *Anantapur.*—A sum of Rs. 6,000 has been allotted to this district for free distribution of gruel from the grant made from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds. There are ten gruel centres working in Kadiri Taluk. The Collector has sent his report about the seasonal conditions of that district and the relief measures required and the recommendations of the Board of Revenue on his proposals are awaited. The proposals of the Collector of Anantapur for the grant of wet and dry remission are under consideration. Pending issue of orders the collection of January kist has been postponed in Kadiri Taluk for one month and the question of postponing the kists falling due in Dharmavaram, Madakasira, Hindupur, Penukonda and Tadpatri Taluks and the January and February kists of Kadiri Taluk for a period of two months from February 1952 is also under the consideration of the Board of Revenue.

5. *Nellore.*—A special report has been called for from the Collector about the seasonal conditions and the relief measures required and his report is awaited. At present there are two major irrigation works, six minor irrigation works, 64 rural water-supply works, and 75 food production works in progress in which 4,224 labourers are employed per day on an average. A sum of Rs. 13,000 has been allotted to this district from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds for free distribution of gruel. There are eight gruel centres working in the district.

Corruption Among Government Servants

During the month of August 1951, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 286 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these, 21 persons were let off, as charges against them were not proved. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of 12 persons and they were suitably punished. Of these, three persons were awarded minor punishments. The names and designations of the nine persons who were awarded severe punishments are as follows:—

Dr. (Srimathi) D. Parvathi Devi, Assistant Surgeon, Government Headquarters Hospital, Ramanathapuram (compulsorily retired). V.C. Selvaraj, Police Constable, Madras City, S. Palaniswami, Firka Supply Officer, Kammapuram, Vriddhachalam Taluk, South Arcot District, G. Sundriah and P. Samuel, Prohibition Guards, N. K. Damodar, Assistant Prohibition Officer, Mangalore, and C. K. Ayya Gounder, Taluk Supply Officer, Erode (dismissed). A. V. Suryanarayana and B. Subbanna, Prohibition Guards, (discharged from service).

Proceedings against 253 persons were pending at the end of the month.

6. *Chingleput.*—A special report about the seasonal conditions of the district and the relief measures required has been called for from the Collector, and his report is awaited. At present there are 304 major irrigation works, 173 minor irrigation works, 143 rural water-supply works, 72 District Board road works, 52 food production works and 18 firka development works, in progress, employing on an average 15,676 labourers per day. A sum of Rs. 8,000 has been allotted to this district from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds for free distribution of gruel to destitute persons. There are 24 gruel centres working in the district.

7. *North Arcot.*—The Collector has been asked to submit a special report about the seasonal conditions of this district and the relief measures required, and his report is awaited. There are 26 major irrigation works, 30 food production works, 80 minor irrigation works, 138 rural water-supply works and 72 District Board road works in progress in the district, employing on an average 8,766 labourers per day. A sum of Rs. 23,000 has been allotted for this district for the free supply of gruel from the grant received from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds. There are 43 gruel centres functioning in the districts.

8. *South Arcot.*—The Collector has issued instructions to his subordinate officers to postpone collection of remissible items of revenue. He has also reported that there will be no necessity for the grant of remission of dry assessment in that district and that there will be necessity for granting percentage remission of wet assessment on account of poor yield in some areas of the district. The remarks of the Board of Revenue on his report is awaited. A sum of Rs. 7,000 has been sanctioned for this district from out of the grant from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Funds for running gruel centres. There are nine gruel centres functioning in the district.

9. *Tiruchirappalli.*—The Collector has reported that some areas in Pudukottai division of this district require relief by way of special remission and that he would submit detailed proposals in this regard after inspecting the affected areas, and his report is awaited. Pending receipt of further proposals the Collector has been permitted to postpone within the fasli the collection of kist in the affected areas of Pudukottai division.

10. *Coimbatore.*—A special report about the seasonal conditions in his district and the relief measures that are necessary has been called for from the Collector, and his report is awaited. There are now one major irrigation work, four minor irrigation works, 85 rural water-supply works and six District Board road works in progress in the district in which nearly 4,890 labourers work on an average per day. A sum of Rs. 55,000 has been allotted for this district from the Prime Minister's National and Food Relief Fund for running gruel centres. There are 27 gruel centres functioning in the district in which free gruel is given to destitute persons.

It will thus be seen that the Government are alive to the prevailing adverse seasonal conditions in the State and have made provision for alleviating the distress in the affected areas and that they will not hesitate to provide further relief measures whenever such relief is found necessary.

Food Offences and Punishments Awarded

During the fortnight ending November 30, 1951, 766 cases of prosecutions against food offences were disposed of in the Madras State, except in the districts of Ramanathapuram and Srikakulam. The accused persons in these cases were people belonging to all classes of social standing and most of them belonged to the poorer classes. Fines, ranging from Re. 1 to Rs. 250 and sentences of imprisonment up to three months, were imposed.

K. Kunhiraman Nair, cultivator, Chervathoor, Kasargod Taluk, South Kanara District, who failed to deliver the yield of foodgrains and declare yield, was fined Rs. 300 or two months' rigorous imprisonment on the first charge and Rs. 20 or a week's simple imprisonment on the second charge. For possession of two bags of rice without a permit, M. Apparao, Visakhapatnam, was fined Rs. 300 or two months' simple imprisonment. A fine of Rs. 200 or simple imprisonment for a month was imposed on Chinnasami Mudaliar, landlord, Chingleput District, for possession of 826 Madras measures of paddy without a permit.

In Guntur District, V. Venkata Subbiah of Govada was fined Rs. 200 or three months rigorous imprisonment in default, for failure to deliver surplus stock of 69 bags of paddy and illicit disposal of the stock, and Nannapaneni Tatiah of Nalapadu was fined Rs. 200 or rigorous imprisonment for three months, for running a mill without a licence, hulling paddy without permits and non-maintenance of accounts. K. Srichandra Sekhara Rao and M. Brahmanandam of Ramulapuram of West Godavari District were each fined Rs. 250 or rigorous imprisonment for three months for hulling paddy without a permit. In the same district, P. Subbarao and P. Rama Rao were each convicted to undergo rigorous imprisonment for three months and also to pay a fine of Rs. 200 or rigorous imprisonment for three months, for buying and selling of paddy without a valid permit.

During the fortnight ending December 15, 1951, 364 cases of prosecutions against food offences were disposed of in the Madras State (except in the districts of Malabar and Ramanathapuram and in the Madras City).

Koya Chowdrayya, Proprietor, Sri Rama Rice Mills, Madalavavigudam, Gannavaram taluk, Krishna district was convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for two months and to pay a fine of Rs. 400 or rigorous imprisonment for two months for milling paddy without licence. For illicit import of foodgrains, Allauddin Sahib of Dharmapuram, Coimbatore District, was fined Rs. 200 or rigorous imprisonment for one month. Sentence of imprisonment till the rising of the court and a fine of Rs. 350 or rigorous imprisonment for four months, were awarded to Koduru Nangari of Moturpalem of Visakhapatnam District, for possession of rice in excess of the normally required quantity.

In West Godavari District, A. Venkanna of Arthamur was sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the court and to pay a fine of Rs. 200 for illicit transport of foodgrains from East to West Godavari and Y. Bapaniah of Tadepallegudem was awarded six months' rigorous imprisonment for dealing in rice in wholesale quantities without licence. Valivolu Sivaiah, Govada of Guntur District, was fined Rs. 200 or rigorous imprisonment for three months for running the mill without a licence. In Srikakulam District, Yelagada Papayya cultivator, was fined Rs. 1,000 or rigorous imprisonment for four months. Bevara Thavitayya, Panki Gangayya, Gadapu Ganayya, Botcha Papayya, Girigala Appadu, Rowthu Venkiah, Gara Ramanna, Bevara Jogulu and Bankura Appala Naidu, cultivators, were each sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for one month and also to pay a fine of Rs. 500 or in default, to suffer rigorous imprisonment for three months, for transport of paddy without valid permit. In the same district, Wamburu Veeraju, trader, was fined Rs. 1,000 or rigorous imprisonment for three months for dealing in foodgrains without licence.

Quality Control of Manures

According to the amendments to the Madras Manure Dealers Licensing Order, 1949, published at pages 176-178 of the Rules Supplement to Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 5th December 1950, particulars regarding the analysis of the manures, viz., nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash contents, have to be marked on the manure bags kept for sale to the public and a certificate as to the guaranteed analysis has to be given by the dealers to the buyers, when manures are sold in bulk. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that many dealers still plead ignorance of the above Order and its implications.

The attention of oil millers, bone millers and dealers in manure are therefore once more drawn to the amendments to the Madras Manure Dealers Licensing Order, 1949, referred to above and they are advised to conform to the provisions therein. The Government also wish to impress upon the interests concerned the necessity to co-operate in the effective implementation of the Madras Manure Dealers Licensing Order, 1949, in order to ensure the quality in manures and enable the Agricultural Department to check adulteration of manures effectively. They also wish to point out in this connexion that failure to conform to the provisions of the Madras Manure Dealers Licensing Order will involve penal action.

The Madras Record Office

By Sri M. G. BALIGA, Curator, Madras Record Office

The records of a Government, especially if that Government has had a long history, cannot but constitute a rich mine of material for historians and administrators. For, while the former will find in them the whole picture of the past, social, economic and political, the latter will find in them the whole host of precedents and policies that have gone to the making of the present. Nor can such records fail to be serviceable to several sections of the public whose interests are locked up in them. These people will always seek in them the title deeds of their rights and privileges. And the records of the Madras Government, coming as they do from 1670 down to the present and that too in unbroken series in continual official custody, are naturally of immense interests to the historians, administrators and others.

Most of these records were for a long time kept in the Secretariat and there, while their administrative value was indeed recognised, their historical and legal value was utterly neglected. They remained almost a sealed book to all but the departments of the Secretariat. An attempt was, however, made to concentrate them in one place and to arrange them and make them available for official reference. The credit for doing this belongs to Lord William Bentinck who as long ago as 1806 centralised the Secretariat records and appointed a Record-keeper and a small staff to look after them and to furnish them on requisition to the various departments. The departments seem to have kept in their possession in the last century only the last five to seven years records as current records and transferred the rest to the custody of the Record-keeper who came to be called also the Superintendent of Records.

Weeding of Useless Records

However, a mere centralisation made like this was soon felt to be not enough. As years rolled on and administration grew, the records quickly grew in bulk, demanded more and more space and called for "weeding". In the meantime, the enquiries started by the Royal Commission on Public Records in England in 1833 not only justified judicious weeding of useless records but also pointed the need for making all valuable records available for historical research and for legal purposes.

The Government then appointed George Garrow, William Huddleston and Talboys Wheeler, successively in 1837, 1858 and 1860 to weed out useless records; and in 1871 and 1893 they encouraged William Huddleston and A.T. Pringle to publish some Selections from and Reprints of old records. As yet, however, there was no complete centralisation, no regular programme of publication, no systematic attempt at preservation and not the least attempt at making the records available for legal purposes or for historical research. These could be achieved only by establishing a Central Record Office.

Construction of New Blocks

This was done in 1909. In that year seven large Blocks of the Madras Record Office were constructed, one for housing the administrative section and the other six for housing the Secretariat and other Departmental records. In 1929 a seventh Record Block was built for housing all the Pre-Mutiny records; and in 1938 the eighth and the ninth Record Blocks were added to the buildings to house all the records of the Board of Revenue and the Survey Office. Ever since the separate establishment of the Madras Record Office every endeavour has been made to organise the office on the most up-to-date lines.

Since 1934 it has been laid down that the Curator of the office should possess high academic qualifications in history and receive, after appointment, special archival training in England. The office also is a member of the British Records Association and the International Council on Archives and is intimately in touch with the latest archival developments that are being carried on in England and America. It is now acknowledged without question that of all the State archives the Madras archives are the best organised in India.

Arrangement of the Office

It is possible to give here only a bird's-eye-view of the office and its activities. Its buildings which are all of solid construction, are situated in a spacious compound in Egmore. An idea of their size and capacity may be obtained when it is stated that the floor area of the Record Blocks is no less than 50,000 square feet and their stack area no less than 162,000 cubic feet. Special arrangements have been made to provide proper shelving, plenty of light and ventilation and effective protection against thefts and outbreaks of fire.

In most Blocks iron racks 22 feet high are arranged on either side of a central passage at right angles to it and partitioned horizontally by two floors of iron gratings above the ground floor; and each of the sub-passages between two racks on each floor are lighted up by windows provided with glazed shutters and iron bars and, on the ground floor, with iron shutters in addition. The entrances to the Blocks are provided with iron doors; the walls of the Blocks are covered with glazed tiles and their floors are made of cement concrete or Cuddapah slabs. As against thefts and outbreaks of fire the buildings are provided with watchmen, tell-tale clock, hand-fire engines, stirrup pumps, sand and water buckets, static water tanks and fire hydrants; and the entire staff is regularly trained in the use of fire-fighting equipment.

Nature of Records Preserved

In the buildings so carefully designed and safeguarded are centralised all the records of the various departments of the Secretariat, both non-confidential and confidential, from the earliest times down to 1947. There also are centralised all the records of the Board of Revenue and the Survey Office from the beginning to 1938, and all the records of the District Collectors from the earliest times down to 1857. There too are received and kept in safe custody all the strong room documents, all the documents of the land mortgage banks and Co-operative Societies, all kinds of covenants, agreements, etc., and all the Electoral Rolls of this State prepared under the present Constitution.

...PR 1952

There again are preserved a large number of old miscellaneous series of records, such as the Mayor's Court records, the Sheriff's records, the Corner's records, the Army records, the Surgeon-General's records and some Dutch, Danish and Persian records.

There also are preserved all the records of the extinct Departments, such as the records of the Director of War Publicity, of the Madras Provincial Selection Board and of the Cadets' Training School. And there it has been recently decided to transfer the Pre-Mutiny records of the merged States of Sandur, Banganapalle and Pudukottai. The Office, in fact, not only centralises all important series of records but also exercises supervision over all other non-current series of records which still remain in the custody of other Government offices.

Methods of Preservation

Of the methods adopted for the arrangement and preservation of records only the briefest indication can be given here. Suffice it to say that the arrangement adopted is strictly departmental and chronological; that is, the records of each Department are separately arranged in chronological order and no collections of any sort on any subject are made. To facilitate, however, the tracing of all records bearing on a... provided ...r subject, indexes, press-lists or guides ... the volumes a... ...d for ... been properly catalogued and labelled and they are all regularly dusted by vacuum cleaners.

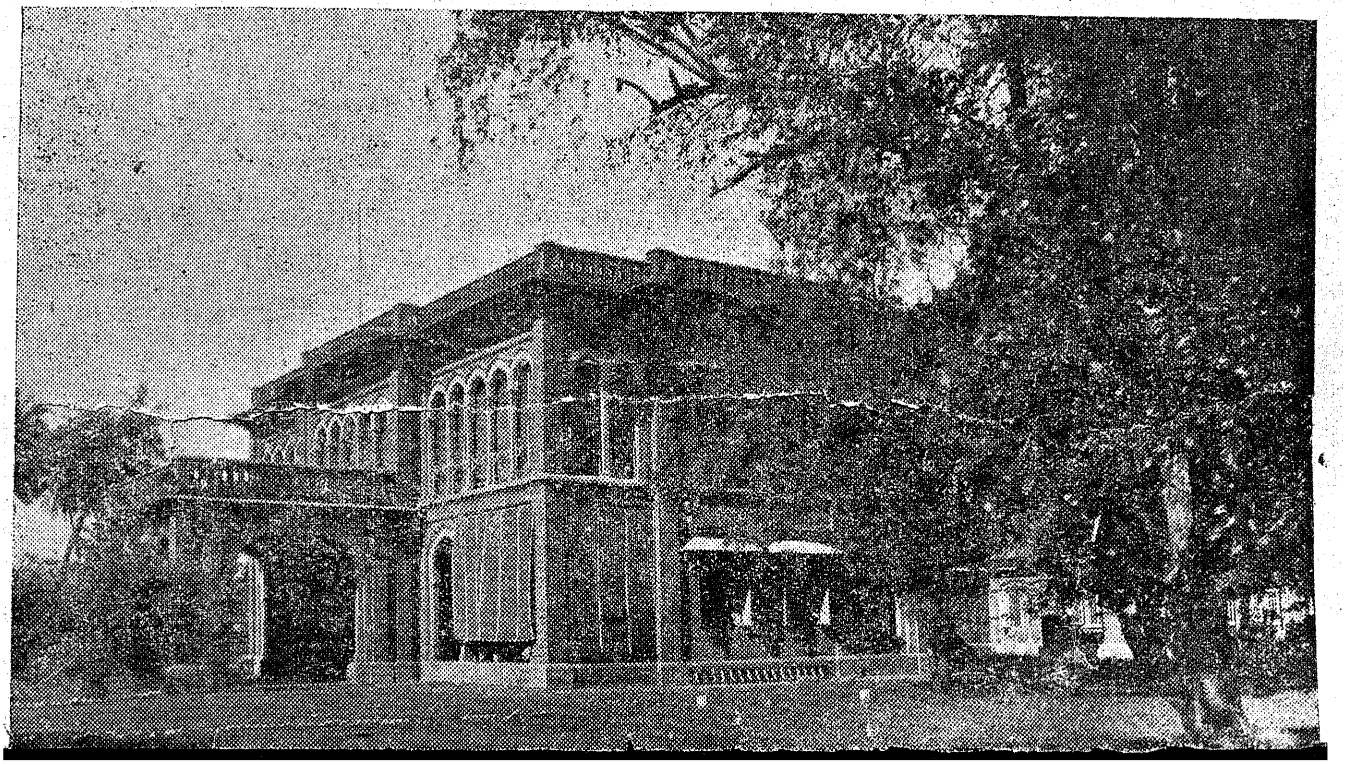
Folded documents in the bundles are flattened, mended and put under manilla dockets, and old volumes are reconditioned with chiffon and re-bound. Several methods are employed in mending, such as backing, filling in of holes, feather-edged patch work, inlaying and repairs with chiffon. All these cannot be described here. It is enough to observe that a file or vol... is first separated into sections and sheets. ... sheet is very brittle and the ink spreads unde... it is carefully damped by a wet towel or sponge; otherw... it is damped by immersion in water for few seconds. A dry towel is next rolled over it to remove dirt, creases and excess of water. Mending of holes, provision of patches, guards, etc., are done at this stage by moistened bits or strips of mending paper. If the sheet has writing only on one side it is backed up by mending paper, but if it has writing on both sides it is pasted over with chiffon on both sides and provided with guards.

Mending and Reconditioning

The mended sheets are finally kept in the press, gathered into sections and stitched into files or bound into volumes. Maps and plans are flattened, backed or repaired with chiffon. All these methods are technical; and of the materials used, the mending papers are of all-rag hand-made varieties and chiffon is of the best quality. The paste is made of cornflour mixed with a dash of arsenic (2 per cent) as a repellent against insects.

A very large number of manuscript volumes of records have been mended and reconditioned in this manner. All the volumes of the Secretariat records from 1670 to 1800 have been mended, volumes of the same series from 18... of the District records, the Mayor's Court records, the Dutch and Danish records and a large number of maps, plans, etc. The office is now engaged in mending and reconditioning the records of the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other offices of the period 1800 to 1857 and in repairing all folded files in the bundles. It also repairs all the damaged G.Os. of the modern period,

RECORD OFFICE : Front view of the Madras Record Office in Egmore, Madras City



...e to see that no records ... sent ...uisition unless they are rendered fit for ...

Aid to Historical Research

So much about centralisation and preservation. As to the making of records available for historical research, revised rules have been recently issued, throwing open all records down to 1902 for bona fide historical research. Many scholars and University students are availing themselves of this opportunity and conducting research in this office, but considering that the field is vast and that the portion yet covered is negligible, it is to be hoped that more and more scholars would come to explore the archives.

It is impossible to indicate here the nature and variety of the subjects dealt with in the records. Yet some indication of this is perhaps necessary. The records of the early period then reveal the political chessboard of the Carnatic and the neighbouring States. Those of the period 1800 to 1865 delineate the formative epoch of Madras administration. They depict in detail the introduction of the ryotwar system, the Collector-magistracy, the organised system of police, the entire hierarchy ... They also ...ding the High Court, social reforms like the abolition of slave-trade, slavery, sati and human sacrifices; of prison reforms like segregation of prisoners, male and female, debtors and felons, juveniles and hardened criminals; and of educational reforms like the establishment of the Madras University, and of the Arts, Training, Engineering and Medical Colleges. The records of the subsequent period describe the steps taken for the expansion of roads, railways, canals, telegraph, irrigation, sanitation, medical aid, elementary education and what is perhaps most interesting, for the introduction of local self-government and constitutional reforms. All these records await exploration.

Reprints and Publications

In order to encourage and assist historical research, the office has undertaken the publication of Indices, Press lists, Guides, Reprints, Calendars and Selections. Most of the manuscript Indices of the old series of records have been printed up; and all the new series have been provided with printed indices. Press lists have been prepared and published for all series of records covering the period 1670 to 1800, giving in brief the contents of each and every document. Guides have been prepared and printed for all District Records down to 1835.

Reprints or publications *in extenso* have been issued in the case of all volumes from 1670 down to 1750 numbering more than 300 volumes, and they are now being issued in the case of volumes of the period 1751 to 1765. Calendars are being compiled for the Revenue Records from 1765 to 1800; and Selections are being made of the Judicial Records of the period 1800 to 1857. It has been proposed to issue Selections from the records of all Departments of the Pre-Mutiny period. Besides this, some old Dutch and Danish records and Ananda Ranga Pillai's Diary have also been published.

Administrative References

But it is not in historical research alone that this office is interested. It is interested in furnishing daily information and records to the various departments of the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue, the Courts, the Collectors and other Heads of Departments on all sorts of matters that arise in the day-to-day administration of this State.

That they are indeed not so ignored, that they are now even more frequently used in day-to-day administration than formerly is eloquently borne out by the larger number of requisitions for them now daily received from the Government. An idea of the volume of work turned out in this connection can be formed when it is realised that in every year more than 17,000 calls for information and records are dealt with in this office and more than 35,000 documents are furnished in answer to these calls. The work involved in picking up and furnishing and in recalling and restoring the records when returned, is necessarily heavy. About 500 to 750 searches on intricate or important matters are also annually undertaken by the office, some of them covering more than a century of records and all of them demanding careful investigation.

Service to the Public

... is not referred to ... subject too minute or too big which vary from indivi... office for elucidation. These subjects difficult or important subjects ... public policies. On all ... traced and studied, but full notes based upon them are written and submitted. Notes have thus been prepared and submitted on a variety of subjects, such as certain claims of the Nawab of Arcot and the Nizam of Hyderabad, the abolition of the Zamindari system and the introduction of ryotwari system in Zamindari areas, tenancy problems, riparian rights, irrigation rights, separation of the executive and the judiciary, reforms in Agency areas, revival of art, cottage industries and the possibilities of mining of lead, silver, copper, coal and lignite in the State. The notes on these and similar subjects have been found very useful by the Government and several of them have been recently published for official use in two volumes under the title of "Studies in Madras Administration".

Nor is this all. The office is also interested in helping all those who seek the aid of records to uphold their legitimate rights or claims. Although it does not deal directly with parties, it conducts hundreds of searches every year to dispose of copy applications received through the Board of Revenue. To mention only a few instances, it is doing a large amount of work connected with the tracing of documents applied for by landholders and inamdars under the Estates Abolition Act of 1947. Those who wish to prove that their inams are pre-settlement inams, that they possess in them both melwaram and kudiwaram rights, frequently apply for copies of old sanads and other documents. Very often in these cases the records covering long periods have to be examined to trace the relevant documents. Again, the office receives from the Board of Revenue and the Collectors summonses issued by the Civil Courts for the production of old records required for trying civil suits. It is also often approached by private individuals for documents throwing light on the birth, death, nationality, or services of their ancestors.

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